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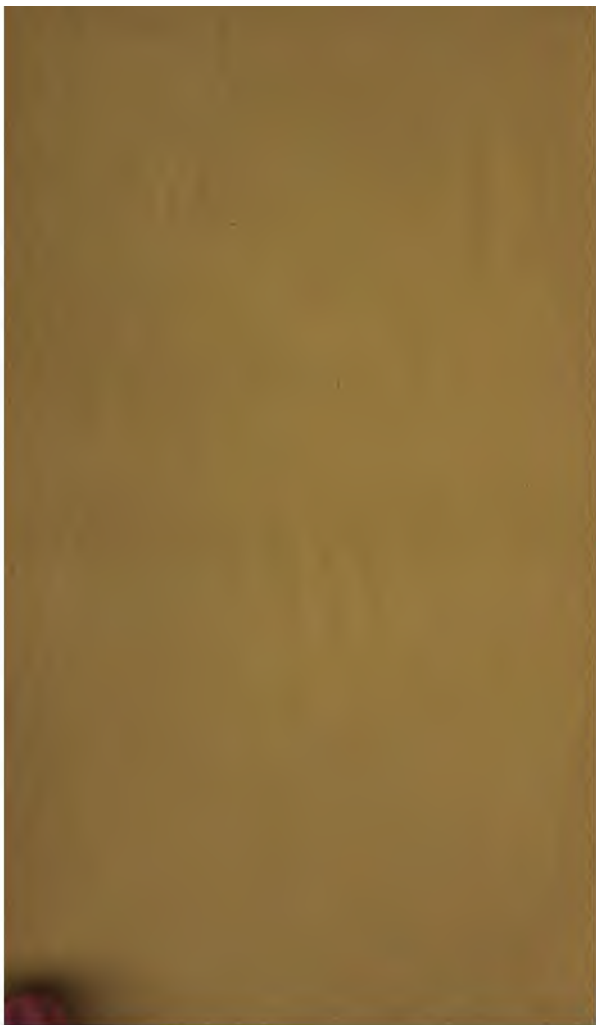
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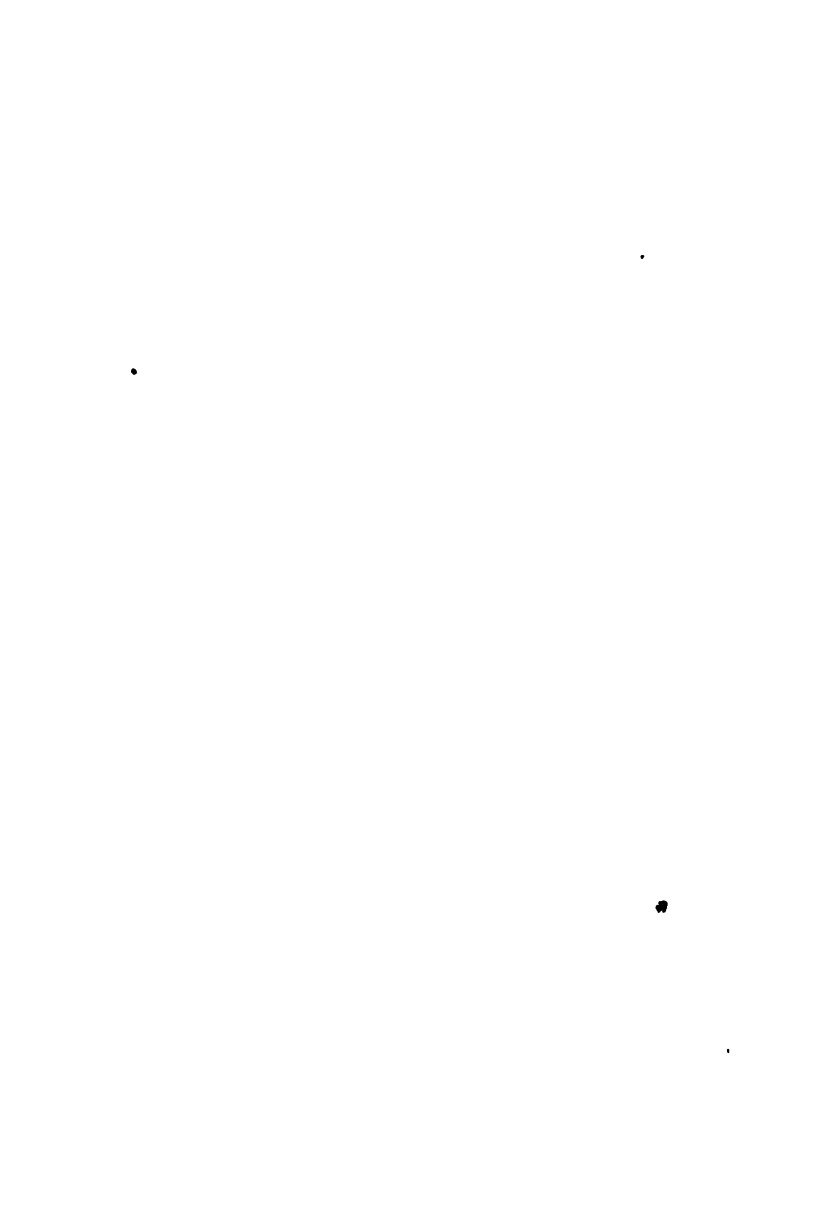
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TOBACCO;

WHAT IT IS,

AND

WHAT IT DOES.

BY

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//

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NEW YORK:
S. S. & W. WOOD, PUBLISHERS.
1861.

Handwritten initials or mark, possibly "S. S. & W."



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P R E F A C E.

Although many of the evils arising from the use of tobacco have been known since its first introduction into civil life, yet they appear to have been generally disregarded by the masses, and in spite of every effort to the contrary this useless and pernicious habit has continued to spread and increase until it is found in every inhabited country on the globe ; and as all the various measures hitherto employed to arrest its progress have proved ineffectual, the only hope left appears to be in the diffusion of information among all classes, and appeals to the good sense of an intelligent and reflecting public. Although the noxious qualities of this plant and its deleterious effects upon the human system, are better understood at the present time than formerly, yet it must be presumed that there are many who are not fully aware of their number or magnitude ; and in view of the startling developments which are brought out in the following pages the author has thought proper to introduce ample testimony, of the highest order, in support of every important allegation. Notwithstanding the very common use of tobacco everywhere, the world is full of the most

reliable and positive testimony against it ; and the author has the satisfaction of knowing that if he has erred in the matter under consideration, he has erred with the wisest and best of men both at home and abroad.

In preparing the following work the author has been greatly assisted by the perusal of an excellent little manual written by Professor Lizars of Edinburgh and recently republished in Philadelphia. The author of that work is now one of the most eminent surgeons of Europe ; it contains much valuable documentary information of a high order, and should be carefully studied by every young man in the United States.

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TOBACCO; WHAT IT IS.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

IN intellectual philosophy, nothing is more difficult, than to convince men of truths against the testimony of their own senses. By observations and reasoning, the ancient philosophers became convinced of the earth's rotundity, and its diurnal and annual revolutions, but the publication of these discoveries, met with instantaneous and universal opposition; besides, their supposed contradiction of scripture, the new doctrine was summarily refuted, by the evidence of every man's senses — the earth was obviously a broad, horizontal expanse — day after day, and year year after year, all their lives long, all had seen the sun rise in the east, move slowly across the

heavens, and go down in the west ; and against such palpable testimony, no arguments founded upon abstract principles, had any force ; the world looked upon the science of astronomy as the vagaries of mad men, and treated its authors as felons. At length the dawning of science slowly dissipated the darkness of ignorance and superstition, and by degrees men began to question the testimony of their senses, and reluctantly to acknowledge the wonderful truths announced by Gallileo and his followers. Yet, although the main principles of Grecian astronomy were susceptible of easy demonstration, men were slow to set aside the *prima facie* evidence of their own senses, and embrace the sublime truths which it brought to light. And at the present time, the chemists, physicians, and scientific men who by their labors and observations have ascertained the poisonous nature of tobacco, and its deleterious effects upon mankind, are regarded much as the ancients regarded the first promulgators of astronomy. Every one has seen

tobacco in constant use, all around him, his life long ; and he is not aware that any one has been poisoned, or in any manner injured by it, and therefore he believes it to be harmless. Acting upon his own brief and imperfect experience, and yielding to motives of interest or inclination, he looks with perfect contempt upon all the evidences and arguments that scientific investigations can present. The march of intelligence may correct the mistakes of the senses, but the universal cupidity of mankind, which ever seeks for gain, regardless of means, and the unlimited love of animal pleasure, can only be corrected by moral considerations, the power of example, and the force of public opinion. The more the subject is examined, the greater its importance appears, and the constantly increasing consumption of tobacco, certainly deserves attention ; we live in the midst of tobacco fields and tobacco manufactories, and, judging from appearances, one might be led to conclude, that the chief errand of life was to smoke. Apparently regard-


less of all consequences, the habit is spread over the whole country, and communicated from parents to children, generation after generation. A most virulent poison has come to be considered, not only innocent, but absolutely necessary to the common enjoyments of life, and whoever attempts to hold a parley with its devotees, if he does not find himself required to answer for his temerity before a legal tribunal, will be pretty sure to incur the most severe public censure.

CHAPTER II.

The abnormal effects of tobacco.—Its poisonous principles.

—Their fatal effects upon animals.—Morbid symptoms and diseases that follow its use.—Extracts from Sir Benjamin Brodie.


TOBACCO, as a luxury, is more extensively employed than any other narcotic. People of all nations, of all religions, and in all conditions of society make use of it—yet it is a poison and an enemy to human life, and ever injurious to the physical and intellectual powers. We will first consider some of its most obvious effects upon the bodily organs, and then proceed to point out its influence on the mind and moral conduct. It may be said in the beginning, that in whatever way tobacco is employed, all its effects are strictly abnormal, and that it never contributes in the least degree to the natural requirements of the



system. Whether the individual smokes or chews, the first effect of the tobacco is that of a sialagogue. As soon as the article comes in contact with the mucus membrane of the mouth, and fauces an increased quantity of mucus, and saliva is poured out to protect the nervous extremities from the virulence of the poison, which would otherwise soon destroy life. This abnormal flow of saliva, charged with the essential oil of tobacco, must either be swallowed or spit out. If any ordinary smoker, or chewer, swallowed all his own saliva, he must inevitably die in a short time from the poison, unless it was thrown off by vomiting. All the impulses of his nature urge him to discharge the nauceous secretion as fast as it accumulates, and the repulsive habit of spitting, is the necessary consequence. In the course of twenty-four hours, an individual may discharge in that way, from a gill, to a quart, or more of saliva and mucous, impregnated with the poisonous qualities of tobacco. This is a tax upon the vital energies of the system, for which

it receives no equivalent. A proper quantity of healthy saliva is always necessary for a healthy digestion, and under ordinary circumstances, all, or nearly all that is secreted, should go into the stomach for this purpose. The use of tobacco increases the quantity, but vitiates the quality of that fluid, so that besides carrying a poisonous element with it, into the stomach, it is thinned, its solvent power diminished, and an imperfect digestion and assimilation follow as the necessary consequence. The tongue and inside of the mouth, being continually exposed to this poisonous irritant, become of a fiery red color, and when an individual has used tobacco freely, for many years, the whole *prima vie* exhibits a similar appearance, and in such cases fatal perforations of the stomach or intestines are not uncommon, as has been abundantly proved by anatomical examinations.

The constant use of tobacco irritates the lining membrane of the mouth, and often impairs and vitiates the sense of taste; the tongue becomes




clumsy, and as soon as the quid or cigar is thrown away, the mouth becomes dry, and the man is thirsty, consequently those who use much tobacco generally require large quantities of drink. Thus tantalized, the individual must keep some portion of the stimulating weed constantly in his mouth, or be continually slaking his burning thirst with some kind of liquid. Beer is likely to become a favorite beverage; and when this becomes too vapid, ale and the stronger kinds of alcoholic drinks are often resorted to, and when at last the man becomes a complete sot, he will sometimes give up his tobacco wholly, and devote himself entirely to the use of intoxicating drinks. Such has been the brief history of many an unfortunate inebriate. Tobacco usually produces a kind of ptyalism, and the discharge from the mouth corresponds in some degree, with the quantity of liquor taken into the stomach; this relieves the kidneys, so that the mouth is made to perform the vicarious office of the urinary organs.

When tobacco is seen protruding from the lips,

or swelling the cheeks of almost every man and boy, in the streets, one might be led to conclude that an article so universally employed, with such perfect nonchalance, must be not only innocent, but a very desirable luxury. But it is not so; tobacco is one of the most pungent and subtle of all the vegetable poisons, and even in minute doses is capable of destroying life; yet it is with this, as with most other narcotic poisons; by long use, the system becomes able to tolerate it to such an extent, that the habitual smoker, or chewer, may use in a single day a quantity sufficient to kill several strong men, unaccustomed to its use.

Usually poisonous vegetables are found to contain only one active deleterious element, but chemical analysis has shown that the tobacco-plant contains three extremely poisonous principles. One of these is a colorless liquid alkaloid called *Nicotina*; it has an extremely acrid, burning taste, and is one of the most virulent of all poisons, resembling in its activity the strong-




est preparations of prussic acid. Another of the poisonous elements of this plant, is a volatile oil called *Nicotianin*, and the third is an unctuous substance called the *empyreumatic oil* of tobacco. All of these are acrid poisons of the most deadly kind, and every leaf and fibre of that vegetable contains a portion of each one of these noxious principles, each being so very acrid and malignant, that it is scarcely possible to tell which is most so. The smoker imbibes more of the oil, and less of the alkaloid, whilst the chewer takes more of the latter and less of the former; either of them in their concentrated state, is quite as virulent and deadly in its effects as prussic acid. A single drop of either of the oils, put upon the tongue of a cat, kills her in two minutes; if a fowl be pricked with a needle that has been dipped in the oil of tobacco, it flutters for an instant and then dies. A single grain of the alkaloid is sufficient to kill instantly the strongest mastiff.

Such is the deadly nature of an article used without stint or measure, by all classes and con-

ditions, the young and the old, rich and poor, bond and free. But in order more distinctly to understand its toxical properties, we must notice its effects when taken in moderate doses. Like many other poisons, one of the first symptoms that follow its use, is a sensation of heat in the throat, often extending to the stomach, followed by a distressing nausea and giddiness, and if the dose is considerable, and the person wholly unaccustomed to its use, vomiting, purging and diuresis follow, attended with a death-like sinking at the pit of the stomach, and to these succeed languor and relaxation of the muscles, faintness, trembling, imperfect vision, anxiety, small weak pulse, laborious respiration, or cold clammy sweat and sometimes convulsions. These symptoms are more or less severe, according to the quantity of tobacco taken, and the circumstances and the condition of the patient; they may be of short duration, or end in torpor and death.

Similar effects often follow the external use of tobacco, and in numerous instances, death has




been produced by its topical application ; and when we look upon this array of distressing symptoms, and at the same time consider that the taste of the article is always extremely nauseous to all who are unaccustomed to its use, we are led to wonder how the article comes to be so extensively employed. It is with this as with most other pernicious practices ; the first beginnings are generally small, and often casual. The habit is acquired by degrees, until at length the system is brought into a condition to tolerate the noxious material, and when no more than the accustomed quantity is taken, none of the deleterious effects are experienced. It does not however by that means become innocent, or cease to injure the animal economy, but it comes to work in disguise, and whilst the mischief is secretly going on in some internal organ, the man is beguiled by a voluptuous sensation excited in the brain. It is so with many other poisons ; by long use the system ceases to admonish the individual of their pernicious tendencies.

In lower Austria, and some parts of India many of the inhabitants are in the daily habit of taking arsenic, by smoking or otherwise, and by long use an individual becomes able to consume an incredible amount daily, with apparent impunity, but the enemy is still at work secretly, and its fatal effects are sure to be developed at last. But no rational considerations, or legal restrictions have ever been able to suppress this pernicious practice in those countries.

No one can be in the daily habit of smoking, or chewing tobacco for any considerable length of time, without suffering from its effects.


For reasons already given, dyspepsia in some form or other, is a pretty common attendant on those who use much tobacco. In technical language, it may be said, tobacco thins the saliva and the secretions of the *Liver* and *Pancreas*, and acts as a sedative upon the *Pneumogastric* nerves. The vitiated state of the fluids produces an imperfect digestion and assimilation, and functional or organic derangements are liable to



follow as the consequence. It must be observed that tobacco does not operate upon all alike. Owing to difference of temperament, age and condition, the symptoms that follow its use are by no means uniform, therefore what may be true in one case may not be so in others, and there will necessarily be found many exceptions to any general rule that may be laid down. With many persons the use of tobacco impairs the appetite, and it is often observed that those who use it freely eat less than others. This is not because tobacco supplies the system with any important component principle, but simply because it acts as a sedative, deadens the sensibility of the nerves, and checks the elimination of effete matter from the system. Percy, an eminent French surgeon, says, that tobacco is as regularly served out to the French soldier as provisions, and remarks—"It has doubtless been calculated that tobacco hurts the appetite; and to save daily from four to six ounces of bread, per man, they furnish him with three farthings'

worth of tobacco." It is undoubtedly true that the soldier who passes the whole night in the trenches of a beleaguered city, with only a distant and uncertain prospect of breakfast in the morning—or the care-worn sailor contending with the elements in a storm—or the exhausted laborer after a day of unusual anxiety and fatigue, may derive a temporary solace from a cigar; but the relief is only temporary and seductive; such as a glass of hot sling, or even a pill of opium would impart—no permanent element is supplied to the system—no organ or tissue is repaired, or restored—not a particle is added to compensate for the losses which the body has sustained; its cravings are only stanchd during the operation of the beguiling sedative, to return with augmented severity as soon as that has passed away.

Sir Benjamin Brodie of London, says: "A certain quantity of the oil of tobacco must be always circulating in the blood of an habitual smoker; and when a single drop of this oil will



kill a cat in the course of a few minutes, we cannot suppose that its effects upon the human system can be merely negative." It is not necessary to analyze the blood to show that it contains the oil of tobacco, as it is abundantly proved by the strong empyreumatic odor of the smoker's breath. Dr. Brodie has long been known as one of the most eminent English surgeons, and in a recent communication to the London Times, he says: "From the best observations which I have been able to make on the subject, I am led to believe that there are very few who use tobacco and do not suffer harm from it to a greater or less extent. The earliest symptoms are manifested in the derangement of the nervous system. A large proportion of habitual smokers are rendered lazy and listless, indisposed to bodily and incapable of much mental exertion. Others suffer from depression of the spirits, amounting to hypochondriasis, which smoking relieves for a time, though it aggravates the evil afterwards. Occasionally there is a general nervous excitability, which

though very much less in degree partakes of the nature of *Delirium Tremens* of drunkards." Again, the same author says . " It would be easy for me to refer to other symptoms indicating the deficient power of the nervous system to which smokers are liable ; but it is unnecessary for me to do so ; and, indeed, there are some which I would rather leave them to imagine for themselves than undertake a description of them myself in writing."

" But the ill effects of tobacco are not confined to the nervous system. In many instances there is a loss of the healthy appetite for food, the imperfect state of the digestion being soon rendered manifest by the loss of flesh and the sallow countenance. It is difficult to say what other diseases may not follow the imperfect assimilation of food continued during a long period of time. So many causes are in operation in the human body which may tend to a greater or less degree, to the production of organic changes in it, that it is only in some instances we can


venture to pronounce as to the precise manner in which a disease that proves mortal has originated. From cases, however, that have fallen under my own observation, and from a consideration of all the circumstances, I cannot entertain a doubt that if we could obtain accurate statistics on the subject, we should find that the value of life in inveterate smokers is considerably below the average. Nor is this opinion in any degree contradicted by the fact that there are individuals who, in spite of the inhalation of tobacco smoke, live to be old, and without any material derangement of the health; analogous exceptions to the general rule being met with in the cases of those who have indulged too freely in the use of spirituous and fermented liquors. In the early part of the present century, tobacco smoking was wholly confined to what are commonly called the lower grades of society. It was only every now and then that any one who wished to be considered as a gentlemen, was addicted to it. But since the war on the Spanish Peninsula, and the con-

sequent substitution of the cigar for the tobacco-pipe, the case has been entirely altered. The greatest smokers at the present time are to be found, not among those who live by their bodily labor, but among those who are more advantageously situated, who have better opportunities of education, and of whom we have a right to expect that they should constitute the most intelligent and thoughtful members of the community. Nor is the practice confined to grown-up men. Boys, even at the best schools, get the habit of smoking, because they think it manly and fashionable to do so; not unfrequently because they have the example set them by their tutors, and partly because there is no friendly voice to warn them as to the special ill consequences to which it may give rise where the process of growth is not yet completed, and the organs are not yet fully developed."

"The foregoing observations relate to the habit of smoking as it exists among us at the present time. But a still graver question remains to

be considered. What will be the result if this habit be continued by future generations? It is but too true that the sins of the fathers are visited upon their children and their children's children. We may here take warning from the fate of the Red Indians of America. An intelligent American physician gives the following explanation of the gradual extinction of this remarkable people:—One generation of them became addicted to the use of the fire-water. They have a degenerate and comparatively imbecile progeny, who indulge in the same vicious habit with their parents. Their progeny is still more degenerate, and after a very few generations the race ceases altogether. We may also take warning from the history of another nation, who some few centuries ago, while following the banners of Solyman the Magnificent, were the terror of Christendom, but who, since then, having become more addicted to tobacco-smoking than any of the European nations, are now the lazy and lethargic Turks, held in contempt by all civilized

communities. In thus placing together the consequences of intemperance in the use of alcohol and that in the use of tobacco, I should be sorry to be misunderstood as regarding these two kinds of intemperance to be in an equal degree pernicious and degrading. The inveterate tobacco-smoker may be stupid and lazy, and the habit to which he is addicted may gradually tend to shorten his life and deteriorate his offspring, but the dram-drinker is quarrelsome, mischevous and often criminal. It is under the influence of gin that the burglar and murderer become fitted for the task they have undertaken. The best thing that can be said of dram-drinking is, that it induces disease, which carries the poor wretch prematurely to the grave, and rids the world of the nuisance. But, unfortunately, in this, as in many other cases, what is wanting in quality is made up in quantity. There are checks on one of these evil habits which there are not on the other. The dram-drinker, or, to use a more general term, the drunkard, is held to be a noxious animal.




He is an outcast from all decent society, while there is no such exclusion for the most assiduous smoker."

CHAPTER III.

Tobacco induces or hurries on Consumption and Hæmoptysis—It poisons the blood—Kills leeches, bugs, etc.—Intoxicates the nursing infant—Causes nervous affections, Amaurosis, Deafness, etc—Weakens the recuperative powers.—Use of long pipes.—Tobacco Dyspepsia.—The use of tobacco no protection against contagious diseases.—Death from sleeping in a room with tobacco.

A recent American writer, of much experience, says: "To those predisposed to consumption, the ptylism which tobacco produces, hurries on the disease." And this is undoubtedly true in many instances. Latent tubercles may sometimes remain undeveloped for a long time, perhaps during the whole natural life of the individual, unless they are roused into action by some



morbid agent; the acrid and poisonous properties of tobacco-smoke, tend to irritate and inflame the extremely delicate texture of this important organ, and the result is confirmed and incurable *Phthisis*.

If the throat of almost any constant smoker be examined, it will be found red, and the lining membrane more or less thickened and swollen, the veins are turgid, and frequent patches of mucous are visible; in time the inflammation extends to the larynx, and along the trachea to the bronchia; the voice becomes more or less changed and often an uneasy sensation is felt beneath the pectoral muscles, sometimes on one side, and sometimes on the other; a slight cough supervenes—the seeds of disease have been quickened into life, and all the train of morbid symptoms incident to consumption, are likely to follow. When we see a lean hectic smoker and spitting continually, we say, that man is going to his long home by steam.

Hæmoptysis is often either induced or aggra-

vated by smoking. The hot steam of burning tobacco, when taken into the lungs produces congestion, and to relieve this, blood is discharged into the pulmonary follicles to be brought up by coughing, and a bloody expectoration follows. This is one way in which consumption is brought on.

The heart of an old smoker is generally a rickety concern ; its action is irregular and imperfect ; it moves, and then stops to rest, shakes and throbs, and goes on again like some overloaded, worn-out donkey. The nervous system becomes deranged, the muscles loose their tone, and a kind of chronic *delirium tremens* follows ; the man must smoke in the evening before he retires or he cannot sleep during the night ; and when he wakes in the morning the first thing he looks for is his filthy tobacco ; without it he is irritable, irresolute and vapid ; he looks to his pipe or cigar for his strength, his courage, his wisdom and his happiness. Poor man ! tobacco is the spirit, the life and soul of his crazy carcass — without it he is most wretched.


Among other mental affections, insanity is sometimes induced by the use of tobacco. In a paper drawn up by the celebrated female philanthropist, Miss Dix, she says: "In the Massachusetts State Hospital, in 1843, there were eight cases of insanity, produced by the abuse of tobacco." Since that time the number of insane in that State has greatly increased; instead of one small State Hospital, there are now three large ones, constantly crowded with unfortunate inmates, and if the proportion that obtained at that time still exists, at the present time, the whole number in that State who have been made insane by tobacco may not be less than fifty.

The noxious principles of tobacco enter into the circulation, so that the blood of every one who uses it freely, either by smoking or chewing, becomes constantly saturated with its poisonous elements. Dr. Pidduck, physician to St. Giles's dispensary, says: "That during sixteen years practice in that institution, he ascertained the extraordinary fact, that leeches were killed instantly

by the blood of the smokers, so suddenly that they dropped off dead as soon as they began to draw the blood." He also, says: "That fleas and bugs, whose bites on children were as thick as measles, rarely or never attacked the smoking parent." It is said also, that the Arabs and Bedouins, who are constant smokers, are never troubled with such insects, although they constantly swarm in the Arab tents.

When the mother of a nursing child smokes, her infant is often stupefied by the poison which it receives from the maternal breast. By such means, the blood becomes poisoned, and an unhappy, and perhaps a durable impression is made upon the whole system, at a tender age.


If the smoker have any sore upon his lips or tongue, the poison of tobacco is likely to convert it into a cancer, or some other obstinate affection. When the system has become charged with the elementary principles of tobacco, its recuperative power is diminished, and wounds made upon such individuals do not heal as readily



as on others ; the whole nervous system becomes deranged, and tremblings, *Angina Pectoris*, palpitation of the heart, fainting-fits, paralysis, and almost every other nervous affection is liable to follow. Sedentary persons, mechanics, and others, who spend much of their time within doors, are liable to suffer more in this way than others ; shut up in confined apartments, they are often obliged to breathe the polluted element over and over again.

Partial or total blindness is often occasioned by the use of tobacco. Inveterate smokers almost always suffer from impaired vision ; sometimes only one eye, and sometimes both suffer. The free and long continued use of tobacco is pretty sure to impair or derange the optic nerves, and produce defective vision of some sort. Of these facts medical statistics furnish abundant proof, and a little attention to the subject might convince almost any one of the truth of the proposition. The following is a case in point, reported by Dr. John Renton of London.

“J. W., a coach builder, upwards of fifty years of age, had smoked for thirty years, generally two ounces of tobacco a week, when he became so blind as to be unable to work, or even walk through a crowded street. He applied to an eye dispensary, where the medical man, who is considered a good oculist, told him that he labored under amaurosis, and prescribed accordingly. After following his treatment for some time, and finding himself no better, he visited a neighboring city, and consulted another oculist, who instantly detected *tobacco* to be the cause of his blindness, as if the obnoxious stench of the weed had led him at once to this conclusion. J. W. instantly “threw away tobacco for ever,” visited a relative in the Highlands, where in a short time his vision gradually returned, became clear, and enabled him to return to his business quite cured. It is now six years since he recovered, and he now can read a small printed book without glasses. He says his health is much improved since he gave up the pernicious weed.”




Numerous cases of confirmed and incurable amaurosis have arisen from the same cause, as the records of ophthalmic infirmaries show ; and the sense of hearing is often seriously impaired by the same means. The auditory nerves by being long subject to the deadening influence of tobacco, lose their tone and become paralyzed and a partial deafness must follow.

With many, smoking appears to be an automatic performance, having little or no connection with thought or reason ; it seems a kind of quasi-mechanical process, and consists in filling the lungs with a hot mixture of gaseous carbon, carbonic acid, and the pungent oils and alkaloid of tobacco, diluted with a portion of common air. Every inspiration of tobacco smoke is charged with all these deadly agents, and a portion of each is retained and enters the circulation to poison the blood, derange the animal economy, and impair and deprave the intellect. Can any one imagine that the extremely delicate membrane which lines the air-tubes, with its sensitive ner-

vous fillaments, can long endure such roasting and fumigation without injury. One would suppose that such treatment would be sufficient to convert the softest tissue into rigid sole leather—the human chest is transformed into a smoke-house, and if the lungs are not converted into bacon, it is because the living principle resists the action of the petrifying elements.

The injury to the lungs from hot fumes of tobacco, being so obvious, human ingenuity was long ago put upon the rack to devise means to avoid the mischief without relinquishing the habit; this led to the use of the very long pipe, in order to allow the smoke to cool before reaching the lungs; but the benefit derived from this expedient was found to be trifling, and as the use of such pipes was impracticable in common life, the plan was never extensively adopted, and men choose to ignore the danger rather than relinquish the pernicious practice.

Some smoke to cure themselves of asthma, and sometimes a temporary benefit has been obtained



from the narcotism thereby induced, but hundreds have become asthmatic from the habitual use of tobacco, for one that has been permanently cured by that means.

When we look around amongst our acquaintances, we often see many professional men and others of sedentary habits, who complain of dyspepsia, and a great number of almost indiscrible bodily ills, which mar their happiness and abridge their usefulness. They often repine at their hard fortune, and seem to blame the stars for their perverse constitutions; they wonder why they cannot eat and drink, and exercise as they see others do; they cannot imagine what can be the cause of all their discomfort. Their physician tells them that it is *dyspepsia*, and prescribes a great variety of ant-acids, tonics, laxatives and carminatives, and as a last resort, a journey to some watering place—to the sea-shore, or to some spring, or mountain in the interior. But the benefit derived from these measures is often imperfect, and of short duration, and more im-


aginary than real. After all this manœuvering the prime cause of all the mischief has been overlooked ; it is the tobacco-worm that is gnawing their vitals, creeping over their brains, and along the spinal cord ; and if such invalids could be persuaded instantly to rid themselves forever of this source of so many troubles, they would, in a majority of cases, be cured without medicines, or journeys. Dr. Chipman of London, speaking of cases of this kind, says : “ Such cases have generally been called dyspepsia, and have been drugged and dieted, or sent off on foreign travel, carrying in their waistcoat pockets the Pandora’s box of all their woes.”

Many have supposed that the use of tobacco was a protection against contagious diseases, but this is a most egregious mistake. The statistics of Cholera, Typhoid Fever, Epidemic Dysentery, and Small Pox, prove that those who use tobacco freely, like those who use spirituous liquors are more liable than others to be attacked by such diseases, and less likely to recover. Dr.

J. H. Fenn of London says: "Tobacco has the effect of relaxing the mucous membranes, and diminishing the vital force, and is very apt to produce, or predispose, to diarrhoea, and intestinal lesions." Lizars of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh assures us that he has uniformly found that persons addicted to the use of tobacco were more liable to attacks of Cholera, and other dangerous epidemics than those who were free from the habit, and when attacked were less liable to recover. The same author observes: "I have invariably found that patients addicted to tobacco-smoking were in spirit cowardly, and deficient in manly fortitude to undergo any surgical operation." It is well ascertained that those who use much tobacco possess less physical and intellectual vigor than others who do not use it, and it is said that prize-fighters, boat-racers and pugilists, never use it whilst they are training nor on the day of contest.

All who are engaged either in cultivating, curing or manufacturing tobacco, are more or less

annoyed and injured by it. To all new beginners the business is extremely disagreeable, and distressing. The subtle poison which the plant constantly emits irritates the eyes, offends the olfactories, stifles the breath, nauseates the stomach, and bewilders the brain; these affections are so many monitors which declare in language as plain as mute nature can speak, that this is one of those forbidden things which should be avoided. Like the Porcupine, it will injure no one who keeps at a proper distance. It is in vain to say that because tobacco, alcohol, hemlock, deadly nightshade, and numerous other noxious things exist, they must be intended to answer some good purpose; the designs of our Creator in all such things are inscrutable and past finding out; fevers, small pox, dysentery, scarlet fever, and every other disease which preys upon the human frame has undoubtedly been ordered for some great, and wise purpose; but we are admonished to avoid them whenever we can. Those who by long use become acclimated, and able to work upon




tobacco with apparent impunity, are nevertheless pretty sure to suffer from its deleterious effects. The complexion becomes of a dirty yellow, the cheeks fall in, the limbs become attenuated and shriveled, the whole frame emaciated, and the whole system, fluids and solids, becomes saturated with the poisonous elements; which like a corroding canker are continually eating away the threads of life, until at length the vital principle can endure no longer, and the individual dies prematurely. Not long ago, the little daughter of a tobacco merchant died suddenly in frightful convulsions in consequence of having slept in a chamber in which a large quantity of tobacco was stored.

CHAPTER IV.

Effects of tobacco upon the mind.—Men of strong intellects have seldom made use of tobacco.—Anecdote of Napoleon Bonapart.—Tobacco debilitates and depraves the intellect.—Quotations from Dickens, Adam Clark, Wesley, Drs. Solly, Abernethy, Carlyon, and Johnson.—Amount consumed in Great Britain in a single year.—Extracts from Lizards.

But after all that may be said of the prejudicial effects of tobacco upon the animal system, its influence upon the intellectual and moral faculties is still more deplorable. These effects must of course vary with the quantity consumed, the manner of using it, the age, condition and circumstances of the individual, but it is seldom innocent under any circumstances, and is often attended by the most lamentable consequences. The sys-



tem may sometimes withstand, or ward off for a time at least, the morbid impressions made upon the animal economy, but the stimulus of tobacco never fails to affect the brain and nervous system, and it is solely on this account that it is used.

Tobacco is a stupefying narcotic; the individual takes it because it creates a pleasurable sensation; he puffs away at his pipe or cigar as though he was drawing from the very fountain of bliss—the brain becomes more or less clouded and the intellectual powers pass into a dormant state. This condition is unfavorable to mental exertion—the mind is in a state of dreamy repose so long as the stimulus lasts, and when that is discontinued it sinks into a state of relapse, and in process of time its powers become permanently enfeebled and depraved. History, experience, and common observation, confirm the truth of this remark. Great thinkers have seldom used much tobacco, and many have left their testimony, as well as their example against it. The sages and philosophers in ancient times cer-

tainly never used it because its discovery is of more recent date, and during the last two or three hundred years very few if any who have been eminent for their intellectual powers have used tobacco. Dr. Franklin, and many others, have left their strong testimony against it.

It is said that Bonapart once attempted to use a very beautiful pipe presented to him by a Turkish ambassador; after one inhalation he cried: "Take away this abomination! Oh, the swine!—my stomach turns!" He declared the habit was only fit to amuse sluggards. It would add greatly to the interest, honor, and usefulness of thousands of American young men if they would imitate the noble example of the first Napoleon, and throw away the pipe or cigar forever. An able writer upon the Crimean war gives it as his settled conviction that the principle reason why the Russians lost so many battles was that their soldiers were generally stupefied with tobacco and raki.

The London Globe says: "That dividing the

young men of the Polytecnic school in Paris into two groups—the smokers and non-smokers—the former always much excel the latter at every examination.” Dickens says that many students attending the American Colleges destroy their physical, intellectual, and moral powers by the use of tobacco, and are thereby rendered unable to proceed with their studies.


Two of the most eminent divines of the Methodist church, viz: the celebrated Wesley and Dr. Adam Clark, exerted themselves to keep their denominations free from the use of this stupefying, and as they thought demoralizing agent.

Dr. Solly, a very eminent lecturer at St. Thomas's Hospital, addressing his class upon paralysis said: “*I know of no single vice which does so much harm as smoking.* It is a snare and delusion. It soothes the excited nervous system at the time, to render it more irritable, and more feeble ultimately. I can always distinguish a man who smokes much by his complexion.” Again he says: “The more I think of the tobac-

co question, the more it haunts me. I feel that I cannot do justice to its importance, but am anxious to do something. Every day the subject is forced upon my mind. I scarcely meet a friend or patient who does not bear testimony to the mischief of smoking." And again he says: "Look at the pale face, imperfect development, and deficient muscular power of the inhabitants of unhealthy districts—they live on, but with only half the proper attributes of life. So it is with the habitual smoker—his system becomes saturated with the poison."

During more than twenty years Dr. Solly held the office of medical examiner of four of the largest life insurance companies in Great Britain, every applicant was strictly examined as to his use of tobacco, and those who were found to use it freely were either refused, or subjected to a higher premium on that account.

Dr. Abernethy, one of the most eminent physicians that Great Britain has ever produced, used to say: "Snuff fuddles the nose; but the fumes



of tobacco possess a power to stupefy all the senses, and all the faculties, by slow but enduring intoxication, into dull obliviousness."

Dr. Carlyon, a correct observer of men and things writes as follows: "What can be more deleterious than tobacco? Many an honest Deutscher have I seen smoking himself into the grave! Rauch — Rauch — immer Rauch! the countenance pale and haggard; the frame emaciated; the propensity to smoke ~~irresistible~~!"


The same author says: "I recollect reading the address of a professor in some American university, to his pupils, on the bad effects of tobacco. This address, sensible and spirited, seemed to come from the professor's very heart. He deprecated, in the most forcible manner, the practice of smoking; which had been recently taken up, and said: "That prior to the period when pipes were to be seen in the mouth of every student, the youth of the university were as different in their looks from the individuals with whom he was surrounded, as health from disease."

The following is an extract from an article which appeared in the London Lancet June 31st, 1857, from the pen of Dr. Johnson.

“The quantity of this poisonous weed entered for home consumption, in the eleven months ending November, 1856, was 29,776,082 lbs. The deleterious effects which this enormous amount of tobacco produced upon its victims, both physically, mentally, and morally, admits of no possible calculation.”

It appears to be a point well established that the free and long continued use of tobacco in any form weakens the intellect; by degrees the mind loses its power to prolong an investigation, or solve a difficult problem; its conceptions are confused and indistinct — like a bird which has shed its pinions, its exercises are limited to its own narrow precinct.

Professor Lizars in his work entitled, “Tobacco, its use and abuse,” says: “By its so general consumption we must become changed in both corporal and mental faculties — we cannot



fail to be enfeebled in body and mind, and become a deteriorated race." Again he says: "Young men who are in the habit of putting an enemy in their mouth to steal away their brains, do not become aware of these facts until it sometimes becomes too late."

CHAPTER V.

worse than Snuffing or Chewing.—Cigars worse
pes.—Snuffing nearly given up.—The earlier
obacco is used, the worse its effects.—Smoking
nce.—The cost of tobacco considered.—Danger
es.

e ordinary manner of snuffing, chewing,
oking, the latter method is undoubtedly
t pernicious. As we have said before,
ker takes into his lungs hot gaseous car-
e carbonic acid—two poisonous oils—and
loid, mixed up with a portion of atmos-
ir. In smoking about a quarter of an
f tobacco, two grains of the poison are
to the mouth. This would kill any one
y short time if most of it was not imme-
thrown out by expiration, so that the act

of smoking consists in inhaling poison, and throwing a part of it out again. There are several reasons why the cigar is worse than the pipe : the large, and loose caliber of the cigar allows the smoke to pass freely through it, whilst the pipe-stem with its stunted foramina will only allow a very small stream to pass through it ; so that the cigar smoker takes his ethereal sedative much faster than one who uses an ordinary pipe.


Besides, the tobacco burns much slower in a pipe, and if the stem is long, the place of combustion and heat is farther off ; when a cigar is used the filthy tobacco comes in contact with the lips, teeth, and gums, and sometimes occasions cancer of the lips or tongue ; the records of American and European Hospitals show that great numbers have died by such means. A tobacco cancer is the most incurable of all affections of the mouth.

The chewer does not get the empyreumatic oil which is evolved by the combustion of a cigar, but he gets the alkaloid, and a pungent volatile

oil. A portion of these must necessarily be absorbed by the membrane that lines the mouth and fauces, and more or less of the same poisonous materials will unavoidably get into the stomach, and produce a train of mischievous consequences which have been before alluded to.

Snuff-taking, once so common with both sexes, is now nearly abandoned, so that it is unnecessary to say much about it here. As usually practiced this method of using tobacco is undoubtedly the least injurious of the three, but it is by no means free from serious objections, besides being a most filthy and disgusting habit; but the good sense of the gentler sex has pronounced an irreversable decree against it, and it will soon be known only in history.

If the tobacco smoker, like the rum drinker swallowed all the poison himself without troubling others with it, his associates would have less reason to complain — but this is not the case; those who accompany him are compelled to partake with him, a halo of ethereal tobacco surrounds



him—rooms in public houses, and even the streets and lanes of cities and villages are often more or less filled with the noxious effluvia—the common air becomes charged with it, and if this atrocious offence was not an universal practice—if only some itinerant smoker occasionally committed this outrage upon public health and common decency, he would be speedily, and severely punished, and regarded by the community as a *felo de se*.

It is obvious that some constitutions tolerate tobacco better than others, and it is also certain that it does not injure the full-fed man, who smokes only after taking a hearty meal, as much as it does those who eat but little, and often smoke upon an empty stomach. To commence the day with tobacco before breakfast is certainly a very bad beginning. But in general, the earlier in life the habit is commenced, the more pernicious are its consequences. In youth the whole material frame is tender and plastic; alive to every agency, and yielding to the softest touch. Tobacco

checks nutrition, and prevents the full development of the organs, and by stimulating some portion of the system at the expense of some other part, deformity is produced. He who commences the free use of tobacco very early in life prepares the way to become a dwarf. Has any one ever seen a person of such habits who was not diminutive in size and a dunce in intellect?

One might suppose that the filthiness of the habit would make it everywhere sufficiently odious to banish it forever from civilized life, but it is not so: the power of the appetite bids defiance to all restraints, and triumphs over all civil, religious and social proprieties. The bed, every article of apparel, his gloves and handkerchief, and even the love-letters of a confirmed smoker are scented with tobacco.


The man who chews much tobacco within doors has a constant demand for a spittoon, which is always a most disgusting and sickening object. When he goes abroad the first thing he looks for when he enters your sitting-room is the spittoon,

this is a *sine qua non* with him, and if he does not find it he must have recourse to the door frequently, or raise a window to discharge his filthy tobacco juice, which if he should swallow would poison, even him. Having a toad, or quid, no matter which, in his mouth, his articulation often becomes drawling and indistinct. And when one is doomed to live in the same house, eat at the same table, sleep in the same room, and perhaps in the same bed, with one who daily eats, or smokes the nauseous weed, and be compelled to inhale the poison second-handed, the abomination is complete ; and the female who has the courage and the patience to endure all this for a lifetime, better deserves a pension than many a soldier.

When the tenant of some narrow cottage smokes, as is often the case, by his own fireside, the whole apartment becomes filled and saturated with the noxious aura, and every member of that family is compelled to partake of the ethereal poison. Tobacco smoke is always extremely offen-

sive to all who are unaccustomed to it, but by degrees the family become acclimated—they are no longer annoyed by the choke-damp that surrounds them, but breathe it over, and over again, without complaining, and at length some are found to love the giddy sensation which it produces; so that the inveterate smoker not only fuddles his own brain, but intoxicates the whole family at the same time—the little boy soon learns to imitate the example set before him, he looks upon the cigar as the smaller child does upon a roll of candy, as the source of unalloyed pleasure, and becomes impatient to put it to his lips. The more he smokes the more he wants to smoke, until the desire for the inebriating stimulus becomes almost irresistible; and to appease this artificial craving some inebriating beverage is often resorted to, and habits of intemperance follow as legitimate consequences. Such is the early history of many an irreclaimable inebriate.

The cost of tobacco, though the least of all the evils that follow in this murky train, is not an



unimportant item. Suppose a lad to commence smoking at the age of fifteen, and to use on an average three cigars per day, at the cost of two cents each, in this way he would expend in one year nearly twenty two dollars; in twenty five years the aggregate of his annual expenditures for tobacco, with the interest, would amount to more than one thousand dollars. This is not an extravagant calculation : many a young man expends in this way much more than we have supposed. But if only one cigar a day is used, the whole expense in twenty five years with interest would not be less than three or four hundred dollars. Now if we should look about us we might find many a man, poor, old, and stupid, without house or home of his own, who has all his life used tobacco, and actually expended in that way a sum sufficient to have provided him and his family a good home in his old age. It is obvious that all the money expended for tobacco is so much lost, and as almost every one expends more or less in his way a large portion of the people are made

poorer by it. The whole sum expended annually in that way by some individuals is almost incredible. We are assured that there are now about town, young men, not yet thirty years of age, who have already expended the full amount of one thousand dollars in tobacco. One individual of undoubted veracity, who purchased his cigars at wholesale, informed us that in a single year, he had "used up," two thousand of the best cigars. The cost of these at the saloon price would not be less than one hundred dollars. If all the small change that is daily spent for cigars was deposited in Saving Banks, they would soon become the richest institutions in the country.


There is another pecuniary consideration connected with the use of tobacco ; it is this : most smokers carry friction matches in their pockets, in consequence of which, either by accident or design, many fires have been set, and many buildings burned, and it is obvious that the lives and interests of individuals and communities are less safe on this account. Insurance companies

suffer more or less every year from this cause. It is said that some of the largest English Life Insurance companies will not insure inveterate smokers on equal terms with others, and if the American offices should adopt the same policy it would undoubtedly be for their interest, and might operate as a warning upon all.

CHAPTER VI.

Does tobacco shorten life? An extract, etc.

SOME are ready to contend that tobacco can have no tendency to shorten life because there are many old persons who use it. This is the drunkards standing argument, and if it proved anything it would prove quite too much: if we are to conclude that tobacco is harmless because old men are found who use it, then by the same course of reasoning we must conclude that intoxicating liquors are harmless because drunkards sometimes live to old age; and by the same rule it might be shown that nobody had been slain or wounded in battle because some old soldiers still survive. Out of fifty persons bitten by a mad dog



several may escape the hydrophobia, but such rare instances do not show that there is no danger from the bites of rabid animals. Peculiarity of temperament or idiosyncrasy may enable some constitutions to withstand for many years the pernicious effects of a virulent poison, but such exceptions to a general rule do not prove that poisons are harmless. A moment's reflection will show that this kind of reasoning is wholly fallacious. Most of those who have used tobacco and lived to a great age, used it sparingly—they only smoked or chewed a little—in many cases the habit was not contracted until late in life, and then was often resorted to as a remedy for some bodily infirmity. It should also be remembered that there is a wide difference between the past and the present generations—our fathers and grandfathers were men of giant frames and iron constitutions, and possessed a wonderful power of endurance—they fed upon plain food, and lived much in the open air—they were inured to hardships, and labored incessantly. Physically and mentally

they were heroes ; they lived, labored, and fought, despite all the evils and disadvantages with which they had to contend ; they were made of firmer stuff than most of the present generation, and yet, we have no reason to suppose that tobacco had no pernicious effect upon them—the proof of its poisonous effects are coeval with its history—it was ever a most virulent poison, and although its operations as such may not have been always noticed, we are well assured that they must have transpired in some form or other. We have said that one of the effects of tobacco is to produce paralysis, and trembling of the limbs ; can any one show us an old person who has used tobacco freely for a long time and yet is free from such affections? Many a young man who smokes excessively is unable to hold his hand still, when the stimulus of the tobacco is off, and as the grog-drinker resorts to his dram to steady his shaking hand, so the inveterate smoker has recourse to his pipe or cigar to steady his.

As has been said before, the most serious mis-



chief produced by tobacco arises from its employment in youth and early manhood, although it cannot be said to be perfectly harmless at any age or under any circumstances. The cigar is rather a modern invention and adds greatly to the mischief produced by tobacco. It is so convenient, so fashionable, so nice and so cheap, that every one who desires to enjoy the inebriating effects of tobacco can easily obtain it. In making a comparison between alcohol and tobacco, a single consideration shows that the latter has greatly the advantage. Drinking is considered disgraceful ; the tipler must be sly ; public opinion is against all common drinkers, and therefore many abstain from liquor for their credits sake ; but the case is very different with smoking : cigars are fashionable in all grades of society, in the highest and the lowest, all the difference being in the cost of the article, and no one is ever disparaged because he smokes, even though he have a pipe or cigar in his mouth at all hours of the day except at meal time ; and until public

opinion can be brought to aid in correcting the evil, the friends of reform must labor under great disadvantage.

The following is an extract from an article written by a physician of extensive practice in London, and published by the British Anti-Tobacco Society.

“ 1. Smoking weakens the digestive and assimilating functions, impairs the due elaboration of the chyle and of the blood, and prevents a healthy nutrition of the several structures of the body. Hence result, especially in young persons, an arrest of the growth of the body; low stature; a pallid and sallow hue of the surface; an insufficient and an unhealthy supply of blood; weak bodily powers; and, in many instances, complete emasculation, or inability of procreation. In persons more advanced in life, these effects, although longer in making their appearance, supervene at last, and with a celerity in proportion to the extent to which this vile habit is carried.

“ 2. Smoking generates thirst and vital de-




pression ; and to remove these, the use of stimulating liquors is resorted to, and often carried to a most injurious extent. Thus two of the most debasing habits and vices to which human nature can be degraded, are indulged in to the injury of the individual thus addicted, to the shortening of his life, and to the injury and ruin of his offspring, if, indeed, he still retain his procreative powers—a very doubtful result—and the more doubtful when both vices are united in one person.

“3. Smoking tobacco weakens the nervous powers ; favors a dreamy, imaginative, and imbecile state of existence ; produces indolence and incapability of manly or continued exertion ; and sinks its votary into a state of careless or maudlin inactivity and selfish enjoyment of his vice. He ultimately becomes partially, but generally paralyzed in mind and body — he is subject to tremors and numerous nervous ailments, and has recourse to stimulents for their relief. These his vices cannot abate, however indulged in, and he ultimately dies a drivelling idiot, an imbecile para-

lytic, or a sufferer from internal organic disease, at an age many years short of the average duration of life."

Before the pernicious elements of tobacco were clearly made known by chemical examinations, many became addicted to its use without the least suspicion of its pernicious tendency; and at the present time some old men of that description are found using it, though very sparingly, compared with the young men of the present day. Referring to such instances an able writer observes: "For *old* men, smoking may be tolerated; but for young men and boys, it cannot be too severely reprobated."



CHAPTER VII.


The use of tobacco impairs the memory.— Anecdote of Dr. Franklin.

THE free use of tobacco tends to impair the memory. The more one uses, the more he is injured in this respect. The profound smoker passes his time in a kind of dreamy ecstasy; the tide of events seems to sweep by him without leaving any durable impressions upon his mind; consequently the habit is a most pernicious one for students and scientific men. Many old inveterate smokers appear to remember little or nothing but what took place before they began to smoke.

It is said that Sir John Pringle who was in Paris with Dr. Franklin, was a great snuff-taker,

and was at the same time troubled with trembling of the limbs and loss of memory ; observing his condition, Dr. Franklin advised him to abandon the use of snuff; accordingly he did so, and soon his trembling ceased, and his memory improved.

The bewildering influence of tobacco upon the brain impairs the reasoning powers, leads the mind to pursue phantoms, and doubtless promotes spiritualism, and other mental vagaries. Like opium it induces feelings of placid enjoyment, and unruffled pleasure, it mellows the passions, and soothes the mind into a delightful tranquillity. The smoker, as he puffs forth the clouds of mottled wreaths experiences a kind of apocalypse, — he becomes inattentive to whatever is taking place around him and revels in the regions of fancy. The dusky atmosphere in which he becomes enveloped is filled with magic panoramas, and he needs but to unbridle his teeming imagination to behold cities and villages, lakes and landscapes scattered in wild profusion about him. The cadences of bewitching music fall gently



upon his ear, fragrant blossoms perfume the scenery, and gait and beauty dance around him — for a time all is quiet — all is lovely.

But these are only phantoms of a disordered sensorium to be chased away by specters of an opposite character as soon as the intoxication has passed off. Whilst the individual is thus beguiled an unseen enemy is at work within him — perhaps slowly, and silently, but surely sapping his physical, intellectual, and moral powers: his happiness is only momentary, and a state of languor, and stupidity follow; and to this succeed restlessness, anxiety and depression of spirits — the man is moody, and peevish, trembles and stares like an idiot — he feels an insatiable longing for more tobacco — just another quid, or another puff, to wait him again to his ethereal paradise. Like the song of a syren it delights, whilst it beguiles and destroys its victim. It is true that the habitual smoker who consumes only a limited quantity of tobacco daily may not be very conscious of such mental elevation; with such the effect is

less in degree and so common as to pass unnoticed by the individual himself; yet, although his mind may not take cognizance of such ordinary impressions, the material organism will not cease to be prejudiciously affected by the introduction of the subtle poison; the senses may be steeped in a delightful forgetfulness, but the laws of vitality cannot be bribed.

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CHAPTER VIII.

Other effects of tobacco. — Case reported by Professor Chapman. — Opinion of Dr. Wright. — Experiments upon dogs. — Argument advanced by the Nashville Medical Journal, answered.

MANY persons of a nervous temperament who use tobacco freely experience peculiar distressing sensations at the pit of the stomach. At first there may be only a slight epigastric sinking, a restlessness and inability to sleep on going to bed, then a shock, which is at first slight, is felt in the epigastrium; these shocks occur just as the individual is beginning to doze, he is startled and his sleep is broken — after a period of uneasy watching, as soon as he begins to sleep the shocks return and sleep is frightened away again; in this way the unhappy victim is often tormented dur-

ing the first part of the night, his sleep is not what that of every healthy person should be, "Tired nature's sweet restorer:" but a succession of broken slumbers, interrupted by startings and disagreeable dreams; and in some instances symptoms resembling *delirium tremens* torment the unfortunate sufferer in the day time. Dr. Shipman an eminent English physician, says: "The martyrs themselves little suspect the secret enemy that is sapping the foundations of health and life. They have been accustomed to the use of tobacco perhaps from childhood; their grandfather, father, and brothers, have used it before them; and they never heard a word spoken in disparagement of it, and their own inclination is a powerful advocate for the pernicious article. Perhaps too, some thoughtless physician may have spoken in its favor; they may however have some misgivings as they lie awake night after night, taking an inventory of their wretched feelings. The only cure for all such harassing, and in the end ruinous affections is to *throw away the tobacco forever.*"




The late Professor Chapman of Philadelphia, said, that he was once consulted by a member of Congress in the meridian of life, and of a stout frame, who told him that from having been one of the most healthy and fearless of men, he had become "sick all over," and as timid as a girl. He could not even present a petition to Congress, much less say a word concerning it, although he had long been a practising lawyer, and had served much in legislative bodies. By any ordinary noise he was startled, or thrown into tremulousness, and was afraid to be alone at night — his appetite and digestion were gone — he had painful sensations at the pit of the stomach, and obstinate constipation. During the narrative of his sufferings his aspect approached the haggard wildness of mental distemperature.

On enquiry Dr. Chapman found that his consumption of tobacco was almost incredible, by chewing, snuffing, and smoking, and assured his patient that all his misery had been brought on by the use of this poisonous weed. The man gave

up the use of tobacco immediately, and in a few weeks entirely recovered without the aid of any medicine.

Dr. Wright, an eminent English surgeon, says, that the effects of tobacco are precisely alike upon man and animals, and that in whatever way it is administered it enfeebles the action of the heart, and acts as a sedative upon the whole nervous system. He tried it upon a number of healthy dogs by giving each one a small quantity daily mixed with his food. The dogs soon grew poor, their limbs became weak and trembling, their hair fell off, they became blind, and their eyelids sloughed ; and they all finally died, being completely emaciated. Now if these dogs had taken a much smaller quantity at a time, and that only occasionally, they might without doubt have lived for a long time, and when finally they died no one would have attributed their deaths to tobacco.

Some individuals may use tobacco daily, year after year without appearing to suffer from it, and




peculiarity of temperament, idiosyncrasy, and personal habits, may enable some constitutions to resist the action of this subtle poison without suffering any serious bodily injury, yet it is believed that few persons enjoy any such absolute immunity; and however lightly some may regard the effects of tobacco upon the human system, it is certain that its noxious effects have never been known to fail when it has been administered to dogs, cats, snakes, bugs or lice.

It is not certain that no harm is being done because none is seen by the common observer; the morbid changes which take place within the system and so often prove fatal are mostly out of sight; and whilst the individual is attending to his ordinary business and thinks himself well, some incipient affection is slowly but surely taking place in some important organ which may at length destroy his life. This is one great reason why so large a portion of mankind die so unexpectedly to themselves and their friends.

**“The young disease that must subdue at length,
Grows with his growth and strengthens with his strength.”**

And yet the individual may be all unconscious of its existence until he is prostrated by it.

There may have been thousands of instances in which none of the evils incident to the use of tobacco have been noticed, yet, when it is clearly shown that so many physical, mental, and moral ills are very liable to be produced by it, and when it is acknowledged that its use is never attended with any essential benefit, it appears surprising to us that any respectable journalists should be so regardless of the good of mankind as to contribute their mite to the support of a popular evil, yet, such is sometimes the case. In order to make it appear that tobacco does not often do any great harm, a recent writer tells us that within what he calls, "the tobacco period," Shakspeare, Milton, Bacon and Newton have lived, and that within the same period the Lutheran Reformation, the French Revolution, and many other great events have transpired; all this is true, and it is true also that within the same period the celebrated Dr. Adam Clark, Dr.




Franklin, Napoleon Bonaparte and a host of other men eminent for their talents and their virtues have lived and made wonderful discoveries and improvements without ever being contaminated with this noxious element.

Again it is true that a very large portion of the most eminent men now on the stage of action are either entirely free from its use, or, use it very sparingly. We know also that until the early part of the present century the use of this filthy weed was chiefly confined to the low, and vulgar. It is unfortunate for the advocates of tobacco that the use of intoxicating liquors has greatly increased within this same "tobacco period," and that physical, and moral depravities, have also greatly increased during the same time; and any argument that may be advanced in favor of the use of tobacco during the period in question, will apply with equal force in favor of the use of alcoholic drinks.

But perhaps in the midst of our arguments against tobacco, in comes some sage matron

and informs us that it is very useful as a medicine ; she has known smoking to cure tooth-ache, and snuff-plasters to cure croup, etc., etc. Such medical dames are often met with ; but they are a very unsafe class of practitioners, being ignorant of the danger that always attends the use of this article when employed as a medicine, children and sometimes adults have been killed by such means. It is proper to say that tobacco is not needed for any medical purposes, there being no case in which it might be employed where something else less nauseous and less dangerous, might not answer the indications quite as well ; but, if it is ever to be used as a medicine, an article of so much power, and so depressing in its effects, should never be prescribed or made use of by any but well educated medical men, and then used with great caution. But if its curative powers were as great as some would have us believe, this simple fact would be an unanswerable argument against its common use.



CHAPTER IX.


Disorders that arise from sleeping with those who use tobacco.—Case reported by Dr. Huff of New York.—Statement of Dr. Prout.

It is undoubtedly true that sleeping with a person who uses tobacco freely often has a prejudicial effect upon one who does not use it. As has been said before, the poisonous oils and alkaloid of tobacco are taken into the system and mixed with the blood whenever the article is used ; a large portion of these poisons after going the rounds of the circulation pass out of the body through the lungs, as the breath of every smoker or chewer testifies ; therefore it is plain that any one who sleeps in the same bed with such a person must necessarily be inhaling the poison second-handed all night long ; a case in point is

reported by a physician of much experience :
“ The young wife of a great smoker grew pale, lost her appetite, become affected with palpitations of the heart, trembling of the limbs and a death like sinking at the pit of the stomach ; her sleep was often interrupted with darting pains and frightful dreams ; she become nervous with symptoms of hysteria. At first her physician was unable to account for this medly of distressing affections, but at length it occurred to him that they resembled the effects of tobacco ; he communicated his suspicions to the husband who immediately cast away the cigar and had the satisfaction of seeing his wife recover in a short time without the aid of medicine.”

In a public address delivered a few years ago by the Rev. Mr. Trask of Fitchburg, Mass., he made a touching appeal to the ladies on account of the wrongs which they endure from this common nuisance.

The mischievous effects upon smokers and chewers themselves are more numerous and



serious than is generally supposed. It is presumed that there is scarcely a physician in the United States who has an extensive practice who has not on his list of invalid patients some whose disorders are mainly owing to the use of tobacco ; medical statistics abound with such reports. The following is among a large number of similar cases reported by Dr. Gersham Huff of New York.

“ We are acquainted with a gentleman who some years since appeared to be wasting away without any specific disease : his evenings were pleasant and gay, his conversation instructive and enlivening, and his general appearance, save a shrinking of the muscles and a cadaverous hue of countenance, that of a man in health ; but the *morning* found him listless and inactive, the tongue furred, the hands hot, the pulse fluttering, weak and accelerated—we may add, with a general prostration of the vital functions.”

“ His friends became alarmed, and physicians of eminence were consulted : by some he was pro-

nounced to be in a rapid consumption; others were of the opinion that the disease lay in the liver; while a third declared it to be a peculiar species of neuralgia. In conversing with him one evening on the distinct peculiarities of his evening and morning sensations, we inquired if he ate suppers. No, was the direct reply. We then further inquired if any alcoholic stimulus was taken in the evening. Nothing stronger than cider, and only one glass of that, was the answer. Our friend was at the time smoking. It immediately occurred to us that the numberless and various symptoms presented, which seemed to baffle all attempts at a correct diagnosis, might arise from the effects of tobacco on the nervo-muscular system, and through it on the organic vital functions. Upon asking how many cigars he smoked per day in addition to constant chewing, we were answered," 'About *eight* or *nine*.'

"We had now no doubt of the cause of his disease: it stared us in the face."


"We advised him to abstain gradually from the



entire use of tobacco, and he would regain his health. Our advice was followed: he is now, after a lapse of thirteen years, in the possession of robust health, and a physical frame equal to that of any man of equal stature, a good appetite, an overflow of natural spirits; and morning finds him in the enjoyment of that health with which he retired to rest on the preceding evening."

Says Dr. Prout, in his book on "Diseases of the Stomach and Urinary Organs": "There is an article much used in various ways, though not as an aliment, the deleterious effects of which on the assimilating organs, etc., require to be briefly noticed, viz.: *Tobacco*. Although confessedly one of the most virulent poisons in nature, yet such is the fascinating influence of this noxious weed, that mankind resort to it in every mode they can devise, to insure its stupefying and pernicious agency. Tobacco disorders the assimilating functions in general, but particularly, as I believe, the assimilation of the saccharine principle. I have never, indeed, been able to trace the develop-

ment of oxalic acid to the use of tobacco ; but that some analagous and equally poisonous principle (probably of an acid nature) is generated in certain individuals by its abuse, is evident from their cachetic looks, and from the dark, and often greenish-yellow tint of their blood. The severe and peculiar dyspeptic symptoms sometimes produced by inveterate snuff-taking are well known ; and I have more than once seen such cases terminate fatally, with malignant disease of the stomach and liver. Great smokers, also, especially those who employ short pipes and cigars, are said to be liable to cancerous affections of the lips. But it happens with tobacco, as with deleterious articles of diet: the strong and healthy suffer comparatively little, while the weak and predisposed to disease fall victims to its poisonous operation. Surely, if the dictates of reason were allowed to prevail, an article so injurious to the health, and so offensive in all its forms and modes of employment, would speedily be banished from common use."



Druitt (Principles of modern Surgery, p. 353) says: " Amaurosis is liable to be induced by certain narcotico-acrid poisons, such as belladonna, and especially by tobacco, whether administered in poisonously large doses by accident, or used slowly and frequently in the form of snuff or smoke."

Again the same author says: " Tobacco, like alcohol, is also an intoxicant in whatever form it is taken ; it creates thirst and is thus apt to lead to the use of alcoholic drinks ; it has a benumbing, withering effect on the intellectual powers, and demoralizes the feelings."

CHAPTER X.

The effects of tobacco upon the appetite considered.—

Smoking leads to drinking, and drinking to smoking.—

An extract from Dr. Budgett of London.

WE would not be understood to say that the use of tobacco always diminishes the appetite for food ; such is usually the case, especially in delicate individuals, persons of nervous temperaments, and sedentary habits, and in young beginners ; but we do sometimes meet with individuals who use tobacco freely and also consume large quantities of food, and yet such persons are generally thin and spare. This is readily accounted for : as we have said before, tobacco vitiates the salivary and gastric fluids, and often renders them acrid, by which a morbid appetite is created ; the man may eat voraciously, but in


consequence of the depraved condition of the stomach his food will be but imperfectly digested, and therefore a larger amount will be necessary to supply the nutriment required. The body is not nourished in proportion to the quantity of food taken, because, owing to a morbid condition of the organs of digestion and assimilation, only a portion of the nutriment taken is appropriated.

Besides, when the system is exhausted, as it always must be more or less, by the profuse salivation which the free use of tobacco produces, a larger quantity of nutriment is required to compensate for the loss sustained; accordingly we often see persons in the last stage of Pulmonary Consumption who have craving appetites. Therefore it is obviously unsafe to conclude that tobacco does no harm so long as the individual can eat heartily.

What if an individual is not aware at the time that he is suffering any injury whatever from the use of tobacco, alcohol, or any other pernicious indulgence? He is contracting a debt, for the

payment of which his whole system is mortgaged; he may appear to get a long credit, but as sure as he lives a day of reckoning will come, and he will be required to make atonement for every flagrant violation of the laws of his being.

It is thought by many, that the use of tobacco leads to the use of intoxicating liquors. This is however, denied by some, who assert that the contrary is true: that drinking leads to smoking and not smoking to drinking. Such an argument cannot be worth much to the advocates of tobacco, for it certainly shows their friend to be in very poor company. There can be no doubt but the two vices are closely connected, and if all smokers do not drink, nearly all drinkers either smoke, or chew tobacco. Both alcohol and tobacco are powerful narcotics, and are taken on account of the pleasurable sensations which they produce, and when once an individual resolves to sacrifice the dignity of his intellectual nature to sensual gratifications, he may seize upon that which is the most readily obtained: it may not be conven-




ient for him always to have alcohol by his side, but he can always have a cigar in his mouth or in his pocket.

Extracts from Dr. Budgett's instructive paper, on "The Tobacco Question, Morally, Socially, and Physically Considered:" 1857. Dr. Budgett remarks: "Two hundred and sixty years ago, tobacco smoking was described as 'a branch of the sin of drunkenness;' but during the last ten or fifteen years, the consumption of the weed has so increased, especially amongst young people, that we cannot even yet comprehend its influence or result.

"Still, the habits and manners of a country stamp its identity; and if a New Zealander, or any manly representative of any of our conquered countries, which we call colonies, could place himself in London, Manchester, or any of our large cities, and ask to be shown the youth of our present time, the fathers of the next generation, he would look in vain for the strength of limb, the Saxon

energy, the *mens sana in corpore sano* which has carried us successfully in every land.

“ If some old warrior read this, perchance he may smile with contempt; but, before he does so, I would recommend him to take his stand at nine in the morning in any thoroughfare leading to London; scan carefully the thin, pale faces on every omnibus; measure in his mind’s eye the narrow shoulders, the shuffling walk of the great majority of pedestrians; and then let him tell me if he can recognize any of the manly elements which were, in his early day, the pride and glory of his country. No! Tobacco meets us at every corner; it smokes on every omnibus, like the reeking of a dunghill; puppies, in the guise of officers and disguise of gentlemen, puff their impertinence into ladies’ faces, who may be unprotected in the streets; tailors, clerks and shopboys, taking advantage of the early closing movement, light their cigars as they draw on their gloves for an evening’s ramble; and little boys, from the costermonger to the crossing-



sweeper, form smoking-clubs of from three to twelve, passing their one pipe from mouth to mouth, in the secluded nooks of every alley, from the railway arch to the mythical areana of the Adelphi. It is here that vice grows strong in company, and here the little boy receives his first practical instruction in larceny from his more advanced confederates ; around the pipe, young pickpockets hold their parliament.

“That this is so, no one can deny. It is a grave and important subject for any legislature to consider, which looks beyond the accepted rule of expediency.

“The medical profession in France bear similar testimony ; for the ‘*Dictionnaire des Sciences Medicales*’—a work of which it would be high treason in Paris to doubt the authenticity—after detailing at length the effects of tobacco amongst the workmen employed in the government factories (for in France it is a monopoly of the State), goes on to say : “The abuse of tobacco is the same as of all other pleasures of excitement,

whether excesses of various kinds, strong liquors, and so forth (*comme de celui de toutes les jouissances par irritation, comme de la masturbation, de l'abus des femmes, des liqueurs fortes, &c.*), and that it is astonishing that more numerous evils are not the result.' Again: 'Parents cannot too much oppose the fearful custom of using tobacco; often they allow it to begin with a culpable facility, and they do not appear to foresee the evils to which they deliver the youth whom they permit to contract this baneful habit; often thoughtlessly recommended for some trifling ailment, the use of it is continued for the remainder of his days.'

CHAPTER XI.


Tobacco in the same category with intoxicating liquors.—
Extracts from Professor Miller, and Dr. Marshal Hall.—
Nicotin employed for murder.

THE more recent writers upon tobacco place it in the same category with intoxicating liquors, and no disinterested observer will find fault with that assignment; and it is impossible to say which of the two is doing the most mischief at the present time. The evils which follow the use of tobacco are less glaring and frightful, and therefore often wholly overlooked by common observers. When some notorious drunkard is found frozen to death after a cold winter night, with a bottle in his pocket, or is seen to die by the way-side in a fit of intoxication, no one will mistake the cause of his death; but because tobacco produces no

such appalling spectacles it is too often thought to be entirely harmless, and very few will stop to listen to anything that may be said against its use. And yet it may be said that with few exceptions, all the great medical philosophers of modern times have united in deprecating its use; and it is worthy of remark that different individuals situated far apart, and under different circumstances have come to similar conclusions upon the subject, and if anything more were needed this coincidence would add to the importance of such statements.

Dr. James Miller, Professor of Surgery in the University of Edinburg, and Surgeon in Ordinary to the Queen for Scotland, in a work of his recently published, says :

“ Tobacco is one of the most powerful of poisons. Give it, even in small doses, to a child, or to one of any age unaccustomed to its use, and its taste will be found unpleasant, while the effects will ye nauseous and disgusting. But habit brings a change in these respects. After a time of



longer or shorter probation, and after perhaps no little sickness and distress in the course of it, the recipient of the tobacco—whether it be in fume, or powder, or solid mass—comes to find a strange pleasure and fascination in its use. And many a man, and woman too—nay, even many a stripling—would almost as soon want their daily meal, as their accustomed cigar or pipe.

“Now, what are the consequences of this acquired habit; Plainly three, at least, may be enumerated:


1. Harm, more or less, is done to the individual. The theory of the law of tolerance, already alluded to, shows that; and the proof may readily be completed by adducing the result of experience. In confirmed and excessive smokers, for instance, the tongue soon shows signs of disorder in the general lining of the alimentary canal; the drain on the saliva—run to waste—causes thirst; and the stomach gives plain token of an impaired digestion. The hand shakes; there is a peculiar expression of the eye; the heart palpitates; and

the entire nervous system is evidently impaired in tone. This is bad enough ; but worse may follow. Local diseases, of the most serious kind, may attack the mouth ; and one or both limbs may become more or less completely paralyzed.

“No absolutely healthy man daily consumes tobacco, in any form, or in any considerable quantity. If he seem to bear it with impunity, it is simply because, by previous use of the drug, he has induced a perverted or morbid state of system, to which further continuance of the drug’s use brings at least a temporary relief.

II. “The man becomes a slave. For a time he has gone on swimmingly with his “weed.” But, by-and-by, he thinks to leave it off, on account of its expense, perhaps, or its inconvenience, or a sense of mischief done. But he finds it easier to acquire than to abandon — to take up than to lay down. There are two at the bargain-making in either case ; but at the beginning and the end their respective positions are reversed.

III. “The evil, through your influence and ex-




ample, is extended to others. Not only is harm done to yourself, but, by giving a character and commonness to the practice, you are the means of entrapping the unwary, and thereby extending the evil. You see little ragged urchins on the street clubbing their few pence to purchase tobacco and a pipe; then they congregate in some convenient stair, and, striking a light, take whiff and whiff about, till either sick or satisfied. They don't like the smell of the weed, far less its taste; and how comes it that they give themselves this trouble? Simply because they see their fathers and big brothers do the same, and they think it manly. Or see that breeched boy, with a hat and cane, fresh from his mother's apron-string—lounging on the portico, or strolling on the lawn, or swaggering even on the street, striving hard to seem at ease behind that enormous cigar—almost as big as himself—which seems rather to be smoking him than he it. Do you think that he would ever have ventured on such a bold experiment, unless he had seen men, gentlemen, sen-

sible-looking gentlemen, such as you, similarly employed."

Again, speaking of the effects of smoking, the same author says :

"Some bear up under this, without much outward sign of physical evil, as hard drinkers in this country may do; but in general the confirmed "victim" may not conceal his chain and shackles. His body grows weak and emaciated, his complexion sallow, his eye sunk and listless, his features haggard; his body stoops, and expresses strongly, in every movement, a premature old age; the mind is weak and fitful; and the moral tone is both lowered and led astray. This is the period of complete abject enslavement; and the man that, starting from his danger, would struggle to be free, must face an amount of effort, as regards both body and mind, that is all but overwhelming. One in a thousand may escape, as brands plucked from the burning.

"What sane and sober man will tamper with a drug like this, encountering such a risk for such




a boon? Yet it is done by thousands in other climes; *a like thing is done by thousands more among ourselves* — all under the plea of *luxury!*”

Dr. Marshal Hall, one of the greatest medical philosophers of the present time says: “It is plain that tobacco acts upon the cerebrum, the medulla oblongata, and the heart; its effects are stupidity, defective breathing, defective action of the heart—forms of debility and impaired energy.”

The gradual and insidious manner by which tobacco operates deceives the common observer. Morbid changes are taking place in the system, but they are for the most part out of sight, and therefore they create no alarm. If an inveterate smoker or chewer is not cut off by casualty or some acute disease, he may perhaps live to comparative old age, and when finally he dies, he is supposed to have reached the utmost limit of his natural life; and yet, an anatomical examination might show to a scientific observer that the man who died at sixty, might probably have lived to eighty if he had been prudent.

When one dies by consumption, schirrhus, dropsy, marasmus, cancer, or any other disease brought on by the use of tobacco, none but medical men look back of the disease to the cause which produced it, and therefore the real source of the mischief passes unnoticed, and the man who has committed a slow suicide is supposed to have died by some mysterious dispensation of Providence.

It has been ascertained that Nicotin, which is the poisonous alkaloid of tobacco has sometimes been employed like prusic acid for the purpose of murder. A few years ago a French nobleman by the name of Bocarme, poisoned his brother-in-law by giving him nicotin in disguise, and was subsequently convicted of the murder, and hanged.



CHAPTER XII.

The free use of tobacco produces *Individualism*.

THE evils which proceed from the use of tobacco are not always so obvious or so well understood as those that arise from the use of intoxicating liquors, so that the masses do not appear to be fully aware of all its most deplorable consequences. One of these is a tendency to *individualism*.

Tobacco, more than any other narcotic known, tends to dissolve the domestic and social ties. Its influence upon the intellectual and moral faculties must vary with the amount used, the mode in which it is employed, the age, condition, and circumstances of the individual. If smoking is not the most injurious method, it certainly is not the

least. The life of a confirmed smoker is an abstraction—he is wholly wrapped up in himself—whilst the brain is overpowered with tobacco his existence seems like a blissful dream, and so long as these pleasurable sensations continue he has little desire for social intercourse, unless, prompted by motives of self interest; his attachment to his pipe or cigar is of the strongest kind, his domestic and social propensities become more or less smothered in that oblivious element, and the attention and affection that he should manifest toward a wife, child, friend or society is bestowed upon this poisonous weed. His better half is tobacco; and to this he looks for a large portion of his enjoyment. He may plight his troth to some lovely female on the bridal altar, but let her remember that he is already wedded to tobacco, and if that connection is not wholly dissolved, her share in his affections will be sure to decline. * *Nicotiana* never coquets, and her love once gained is not easily thrust aside.

Tobacco.

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The free use of tobacco commenced early in life is pretty sure to destroy all the masculine powers and propensities. Dr. Laycock, Professor of the Practice of Physic in the University of Edinburgh says: "If such an one marry he deceives his wife, and disposes her to infidelity, and exposes himself to ignominy and scorn."

Again he says: "If, therefore, ladies sufficiently value their own happiness, and the health and happiness of their families, they ought not to marry smokers; nor should they trust the promises of reformation which such persons may make as they are seldom kept."

There is abundant reason to believe that the free use of tobacco in any form early in life, by either sex, tends to disqualify such persons for the duties and responsibilities of matrimony. This may be new doctrine to some, but the proof is too abundant. We have only to consider the loose manner in which the conjugal relation is now held, the smallness of families compared with forty or fifty years ago, the slow increase of com-

munities and districts by natural population. Look at the alarming and continually increasing catalogues of legal divorces announced at the close of every judicial term, and the still greater number of voluntary separations! Why is so much sterility and effeminacy observed among those who are constantly feasting upon tobacco? The statistics of different countries appear to show that everywhere, in proportion as the use of tobacco has increased, natural population has decreased. From 1841 to 1846, 1,200,000 children were born in France; but in the same number of years, from 1851 to 1856, only 256,000 were born; and it is said that in Spain the decrease is about in the same proportion, and it is probable that some districts in the United States could give but little better account of themselves.

Before cigars were seen, as they are now, in the mouth of almost every lad over a dozen years of age, nearly every young man, whatever might be his circumstances as to property, as




soon as he became of age married, and commenced business and housekeeping for himself; large, healthy, industrious, and prosperous families sprung up, towns and cities were built, and every kind of business was prosecuted with energy. Such families were the nurseries of genius, science and enterprise; from them sprang statesmen and heroes; the strong, sound, and good men of the nation, the pillars of the church, and the conservators of civil and religious freedom; they lived to bless their race; enjoyed life themselves and handed it down to others. But now, our streets are filled with effeminate, smoking bachelors, who drown all their manliness in oblivious tobacco; they appear to suppose that the great business of life is to smoke. Beguiled by its lethean influence they allow the vigor of youth to glide away before they are ready to commence the world in earnest; life's morning is spent in a dream, and its evening in premature senility.

The antiprodisiac effects of tobacco were dis-

covered long ago. Amurath the fourth, Emperor of Turkey, who lived in the early part of the seventeenth century, became so much alarmed on that account that he feared that it would eventually depopulate his empire, and therefore prohibited smoking by severe penalties. Not far from the same time, James the first, of England issued his denunciation against tobacco in a publication called "The Counter-blast," but the result has shown that mankind are ever more inclined to be governed by appetite than by law, or reason.

A writer in the London Lancet for Feb., 1856 says: "If the evil of smoking ended with the individual who, by the indulgence of a pernicious custom, injures his own health, and impairs his faculties of mind and body, he might be left to his enjoyments — his *fools paradise* — unmolested. This, however is not the case: in no instance is the sin of the father more strikingly visited upon his children, than the sin of tobacco smoking. The enervation, the hypochondriasis,




the hysteria, the insanity, the dwarfish deformities, the consumption, the suffering lives and early deaths of the children of inveterate smokers bear ample testimony to the feebleness and unsoundness of the constitution transmitted by this pernicious habit."

Dr. Higginbottom of Nottingham, says :
says : "After fifty years of most extensive and varied practice in my profession, I have come to the decision, that smoking is a main cause of ruining our young men, pauperizing the workingmen, and rendering comparatively useless the best efforts of ministers of religion."

Some of the Sultans and Bashaws of the Eastern nations as has been before observed, make use of very long pipes with spiral tubes which are sometimes so contrived as to pass the smoke through cold water before it reaches the lungs. This curious pipe is called the Hookah. The following is an extract from a poem published in Paris some years ago.

The Seignior of the East is truly blest,
By slaves attended as he lies at rest ;
Some at his side rich floods of Mocha pour,
Till with their extasy his soul runs o'er ;
Others obedient, waiting at his feet,
The hookah bring to make his joy complete.
Wond'rous invention, first by wealth bespoke,
To cool for luxury the heated smoke,
To make it slow through scented waters pass,
And cool itself in twisting tubes of glass —
Quit what's impure, and all that's acrid leave,
So that the lord shall only bliss receive. .
He makes his hookah equal to his wife,
Both his mere adjuncts of voluptuous life ;
Pure from the bath, perfumed, and full of grace,
Both meet his kisses and his warm embrace.



CHAPTER XIII.

Mental operations checked or suspended by the use of tobacco.—Persons accustomed to its use seldom abandon it.—Communication from Benjamin Silliman, M. D. L. L. D.


SEVERAL years ago an English Surgeon by the name of McDonald announced as the result of his observations, that, as long as an individual is earnestly engaged in inhaling tobacco smoke he is incapable, for the time being, of mental exercise. Dr. McDonald says: "I may mention a curious fact, not generally known, but which requires only to be tried to be proven, viz: that no smoker can think steadily or continuously on any subject while smoking. He cannot follow out a train of ideas—to do so he must lay aside his pipe." The truth of this proposition appears

to be confirmed both by observation and physiological investigations.

Dr. Lacock, of London, in an article published in the London Times, says: "On the brain the action of tobacco is sedative. It appears to diminish the rapidity of cerebral action, and check the flow of ideas."

It has long been known that pressure upon the cerebrum either from external or internal agencies, produced instantaneous insensibility, which might be momentary, or permanent according to the nature or duration of the cause.

Dr. John W. Draper, professor of Chemistry and Physiology in the University Medical College, New York, says: "Pressure upon the brain, either applied mechanically or through accidental effusion, produces at once functional inactivity, probably by interference with the due circulation of the blood; and in like manner, any marked change in the chemical relations of that fluid exerts on the brain a corresponding effect." A little observation will be sufficient to convince any





one that Dr. McDonald's proposition is mainly correct, and, that during the time occupied by an individual in filling his system with the noxious effluvia of tobacco his mental powers must be at a stand still. If we should notice an inveterate smoker we should see him ever and anon removing the cigar from his mouth ; this seems to be a kind of instinctive operation in order to relieve the brain from the overpowering effect of the lethean sedative, and give the individual time to think. This idea may be new to many but it certainly deserves serious consideration as it goes to show the debilitating and dementing effects of tobacco upon the brain. After commenting upon the mischiefs which follow the use of tobacco, Dr. McDonald says: "In conclusion I may state, that the germs of premature decay which the abuse of tobacco is spreading through the country, will ultimately, in my opinion, prove more overwhelming than even the serious abuse of intoxicating liquors."

So far as the testimony of the ablest and best

of men both in Europe and America can go, all the evils that we have charged to the use of tobacco are fully established, and no additional amount of testimony would strengthen the propositions; the proof is abundant and incontrovertible that the improper use of tobacco tends to produce physical, intellectual, and moral impotency; and that these effects are most obvious, and most deplorable, when the habit is acquired and persisted in early in life.

Some persons have become addicted to the habit of taking opium daily from having first used it in sickness to allay pain or procure sleep; and many others have become drunkards from having used gin, wine, brandy, or bitters as a medicine; but the votaries of tobacco can offer no such extenuating plea. The young lad seizes a cigar and puts it to his mouth because, and only because, he sees others do so. In the beginning it is nothing but an idle habit without any necessity, or utility for its excuse; but the habit gains strength by continuance, and by degrees attaches




self to the victim; the longer the practice is continued the more difficult it is to break away from. The individual loses his proper self control and gives himself up to a mischievous habit because he has not sufficient resolution, and manly independence, to cast it off. Almost every noxious substance seems to possess the power of fastning itself upon its victim; it is so with the deluded wretches among some of the eastern nations who eat arsenic, or swallow the juice of *Cannibus Indica*, and it is so everywhere with those who drink alcohol, take opium or any other stupefying narcotic. This shows the danger of tampering with any such noxious agents; and also the great importance of guarding the young against them. How few old drinkers or old smokers ever reform! After the shackles are riveted upon the victim admonitions and entreaties are generally useless, and it is doubtless much easier to prevent twenty from adopting any such pernicious habit than it is to reclaim one inveterate smoker or drinker.

The following is an extract from a letter to the author from the Hon. Benjamin Silliman, M. D. L. L. D., Emeritus, Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy in Yale College.

“ I am willing that you should quote me as decidedly hostile to the use of tobacco. I believe it is highly injurious to health, although its deleterious effects may not be fully apparent until the habit has become so firmly established that it becomes very difficult to break away from it. It rarely happens that a person who uses tobacco habitually, enjoys good health; and maladies are produced by it which are usually ascribed to other causes. In a social view the habit is filthy and disgusting—In a moral view the cigar is often the pioneer to vicious society and intemperance. If I see a young man smoking, especially in the streets, I am alarmed and think him in danger.”

Professor Silliman is too well known throughout the entire literary world to need any eulogium from us; his extensive attainments, long experience, and high moral standing entitle his remarks to paramount importance.





CHAPTER XIV.

Tobacco a source of revenue in France.—One evil made to support another.—Rum and tobacco as luxuries.—Do they add to the real enjoyments of life?—Early history of tobacco. Prohibitions ineffectual.—The odious character of growing tobacco.—etc.

IN France the tobacco trade is regulated by the government and is made the source of national revenue, therefore it is carefully watched and encouraged. The Emperor and Empress both smoke by way of encouragement; it is dealt out to every soldier as a part of his daily rations, the highest civil and military functionaries, the clergy and the laity, professors and students, artisans, mechanics, and common laborers, all follow the example and contribute their proportion to swell the national revenue. Every cigar, and every

ounce of tobacco consumed pays tribute to the government. Under this system the consumption of tobacco in France is continually increasing, and at the present time it is said to yield an annual income to the government of more than 100,000,000 of francs, which is supposed to be about one fifteenth of the whole national revenue. This tax falls heavily upon the poorer classes, and contributes largely to depress and pauperize them; yet it would be deemed almost high treason to speak against it anywhere within the jurisdiction of that empire. By such means one great evil is made to support another, and the curse of tobacco is made to support the curse of war. The aged, decrepid, and the maimed, with helpless women and children, such as can render their country no other service, manifest their loyalty by smoking, that they may help France to transport the flower of her youth to fields of slaughter in foreign kingdoms.

Happily for us the people of the United States are not subject to any such morbid influence. Our



young men fear no arbitrary conscription that may take them from their homes and their friends to die by foreign bayonets, nor are they required to give their earnings for the support of royalty. Under God every one is the arbiter of his own fortune ; he is free to regulate his conduct, and exercise his powers in such manner as is most conducive to his own honor and happiness, and his success and prosperity in life are made to depend much upon the evils which he avoids.

The very common idea that spirituous liquors are indispensable as medicinal agents has done much to baffle the cause of temperance, but no such reason can be urged for tobacco, as none but the most reprehensible quacks ever employ it now in medical practice : it is sometimes made use of by drovers and herdsmen to kill lice on cattle, but that is no good reason why men should eat it. It is no comfort in sickness, for even those who take it freely in health always positively refuse it when they are sick.

Many appear to suppose that rum and tobacco

add greatly to the enjoyment of life : then why should the male sex claim all the benefit of those blissful agents ; why should not woman be allowed her equal share in these necessary creature comforts ? The answer is that every intelligent pure-minded female scorns the proffered aid of such artificial stimulants, and looks for happiness in more rational enjoyments. The truth is, neither rum nor tobacco employed as luxurious stimulants adds in the least degree to the sum total of human happiness, but a multitude of evils are liable to follow their use.

Some may ask : may not a person smoke a little occasionally without injury ? The answer is, tobacco whenever, and however taken, is always a poison ; and he that has the least to do with it is certainly the best off.

The gallant General Markham, who was not long ago with the English army in India, never used tobacco himself nor allowed his personal staff to do so, and after extensive observations both in civil and Military life he made the follow-

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ing statement as the result of his experience. "I may be mistaken, but I believe that all our greatest men—I mean intellectually—statesmen, lawyers, warriors, physicians, and surgeons, have either not been smokers, or if smokers, that they have died prematurely."

All that is known of the early history of tobacco is, that when this continent was first discovered this vegetable was found to be in use among the aborigines. History says: "They employed it as incense in their sacrificial fires, believing that the odor of it was grateful to their gods. The priests of some tribes swallowed the smoke of the plant to excite in them a spirit of divination, and this they did to a degree which threw them into a stupor of many hours continuance. When recovered from this fit of intoxication, they asserted that they had held a conference with the devil, and had learned from him the course of human events. Their physicians also got inebriated with the smoke, and pretended that while under the influence of this intoxication they were admitted to the council of

the gods, who revealed to them the event of diseases." *

From the aspect and sensible properties of tobacco one might be led to infer that the Most High had forbidden its use by the force of natural laws. The green plant is always extremely obnoxious and offensive to all the senses: When first seen, with the most odious of all vermin crawling upon its leaves, we are reminded of those noxious vegetables which fabulists tell us are found on the borders of the Dead Sea. But in its manufactured state much of its repulsive character is lost, although it still retains all its deadly principles. So far as we know, its first introduction among any people has ever been opposed by both civil and ecclesiastical authorities. James the First, of England besides writing a book against it, forbid its use by severe penalties. Urban the Eighth, issued a papal decree against it. Russia, Turkey, Sweden and many other monarchies endeavored to banish it forever from their dominions by sum-

* Bigelow's *Nature in Disease*.



mary prohibitions. The early Puritans strenuously opposed it, and the Old Colony of Massachusetts repeatedly passed laws against it. The early records of Harvard University show that the faculty of that institution intended to exclude it by ordaining that, "No scholar shall take tobacco, unless permitted by the president, with the consent of their parents and guardians, and on *good reason first given by a physician*, and then in a sober and *privaté manner*."

But in spite of the mandates of sovereigns and the bulls of popes — in opposition to all civil and ecclesiastical authority, the cultivation and employment of this noxious plant have increased with surprising rapidity, until its pernicious effects are felt in all parts of the world. The sensual propensities of men have bid defiance to all laws, and despised all restraints until the article of tobacco has become an important item in the agricultural, commercial and manufacturing interests of the world. Its acme is not probably yet reached, and its destructive effects upon the human race


limit of no computation. As we have said before when the plant has arrived to a state of maturity the tobacco field is a most unwholesome and disagreeable sight. All other cultivated grounds are more or less pleasant and desirable: fields of growing grain, pastures, meadows, orchards and gardens, fruit and shade trees, all seem lovely, and calculated to awaken sentiments of admiration and gratitude in the beholder; but the sight of a tobacco field is the very reverse of this. As we approach it an instinctive sense of desolation seizes over us, and we feel as though treading upon forbidden ground. In its aspect the tobacco plant is the most odious and repulsive of all vegetables. No beast or bird, wild or tame, will ever step on it—no living creature except a horrid kind of vermin that is found nowhere else is ever seen on it—to all who are not familiar with the sight of a pale green foilage, with its unctuous surface, nauseous and sickening in the extreme; and if the spectator does not immediately turn away in disgust, he may be made giddy by the maddening

exhalations which hover over these lurid fields, and imagine himself standing upon the margin of some modern Asphaltides, surrounded with hissing serpents, their forky tongues vibrating from beneath every slimy leaf.

Although tobacco flourishes best in a sultry atmosphere yet this curse of the vegetable kingdom seems almost to bid defiance to climate, and is cultivated and thrives in the cold regions of New England. This very year 1860, in a limited district on the borders of the Connecticut River, it is said that there are about two thousand acres of cultivated tobacco; and estimating the average product per acre to be fifteen hundred pounds the whole crop in that district will amount to fifteen hundred tons, and this is a mere trifle compared with the annual product of the state of Virginia: besides it is raised in many other places both north and south in the United States, and is also cultivated in almost every other warm country on the globe. That which is raised in cold regions is more pungent and acrid, than that

which grows in the West Indies and other hot countries, it is not considered so delicious, and consequently does not bring so high a price.

Notwithstanding tobacco is so highly offensive to all the senses—notwithstanding its known poisonous qualities, and its acknowledged pernicious effects upon mankind, there are always men enough ready to cultivate it, and work it through all its stages and conditions until it is ready for the consumer ; and yet in all the vast amount produced there is not a single particle of food or medicine—nothing that is capable of sustaining life, or supplying any of the natural wants of the system ; but every leaf, and stalk and petal, is charged with a threefold poison—it is the American Upas—the bane of the world. In some of our northern states the cultivation of tobacco is rapidly increasing. Rich meadows which lately smiled with waving corn, rye, wheat and onions, now produce nothing but the noisome tobacco : fields which once supplied thousands with wholesome food, are now loaded with poison for millions.




CHAPTER XV.

Tobacco inclines the mind to Infidelity.

THERE can be no doubt we think that the long continued use of great quantities of tobacco is likely to have an unhappy effect upon the moral faculties; and many believe that it strongly inclines the mind to religious infidelity. The following are some of the considerations which lead to that belief.


In general, wherever tobacco is most used, infidelity is most prevalent. This does not appear to be a mere casual coincidence, because there seems to be an obvious relation between the cause and this effect. When the brain and nervous system are constantly kept under the inebriating influence of tobacco, the individual becomes

constitutionally a sensualist. Tobacco feeds and nurses the animal, at the expense of the intellectual man, and the dreamy stupor which it induces inclines the mind to skepticism and infidelity. Under its beguiling influence the heedless votary seems by degrees to lose the image of his Maker, and descend in the scale of beings towards the brutes that perish—human life comes to be regarded as an insolation—a temporary existence to terminate like the explosion of a rocket. Under its lethean influence men seem inclined to forget their moral accountability, and surrender themselves, soul, body and mind to a depraving sensuality—the great end of life is forgotten; or if some intuitive sense of immortality is felt, it looks forward to nothing higher than a perpetuation of animal enjoyment; a Mahomedan paradise appears to be his highest aspirations. It is not pretended that all who use tobacco are necessarily infidels, nor that all who do not use it are necessarily christians, but a careful observation of its effects upon the brain and nervous



stem favors the belief that the use of tobacco when persisted in for any considerable length of time tends to depress, and smother the highest and noblest sentiments and aspirations of our nature, and drag the mind down to a grovelling materialism; and this idea is greatly strengthened by observations abroad. The annual consumption of tobacco in France almost exceeds belief: reliable statistics show that in the year 1854 the city of Paris alone smoked, snuffed and chewed, no less than 3,000,000 lbs, or one thousand five hundred tons of tobacco, at a cost of 17,725,263 francs; and ninety eight per cent of this immense quantity was consumed by smoking. Here as we might expect, a stubborn infidelity pervades all classes; like a moral mildew its blighting effects extend over all that mighty empire; everywhere the Sabbath is disregarded or only observed as a holiday; instead of the sound of Sabbath bells her streets resound with the clarion of war; and neither business, nor revelling give place to religious worship. Their statistics show that of th

whole number of children annually born in France, about one third are illegitimate; matrimonial and family ties appear to be held lightly or wholly disregarded; and beneath the clouds of tobacco smoke that fill every city and hamlet the darkest atheism lives and broods. Lamartine says: "I know — I sigh when I think of it — that hitherto the French people have been the least religious of all the nations of Europe. The great men of other countries live and die on the scene of history, looking up to Heaven; but our great men appear to live and die, forgetting completely the only idea for which it is worth living and dying.—History will have the air of an atheist when she recounts to posterity these annihilations rather than deaths of celebrated men in the greatest year of France:—The victims only have a God; the tribunes and lictors have none. Look at Mirabeau on the bed of death — 'Crown me with flowers,' said he, 'intoxicate me with perfumes, let me die to the sound of delirious music.' Not a word of God or his soul; sen-



sual philosopher : He desired only supreme sensualism, a last voluptuousness in his agony. Hear Danton on the platform of the scaffold at the distance of a line from eternity, ' I have had a good time of it, let me go to sleep.' His faith annihilation, his last sigh vanity !"


In Germany the use of tobacco has increased with almost unparalleled rapidity during the last twenty five years, and here its connection with infidelity is strikingly illustrated ; once Germany believed in God and a Divine Revelation, but now the corroding influence of tobacco seems to have eaten out all the once elevated moral sensibilities of the people, and left nothing but a cold materialism and the most grovelling propensities ; spellbound beneath this moral plague she presents a sad example to the christian world.

In Spain a nominal christianity is still maintained by force of law, but its spirit and vitality appear to have passed away, and nothing but the abrogation of an imperial edict seems wanting to plunge the whole nation into the darkest atheism.

The all pervading influence of tobacco like a moral incubus, stifles every living thought and principle, and paralyzes every progressive effort.

Let the historian watch the progress of tobacco-smoking in any part of the world and he may see at the same time the equal march of infidelity. If we look at the United States we see smoking and an oblivious infidelity moving forward with the same measured strides; look anywhere, and the more we examine the subject the more we shall be satisfied that the use of tobacco promotes domestic, social, civil and religious infidelity.

It is probable that many who are well satisfied of the injury done to the animal system by tobacco will be very slow to believe that it has any influence whatever upon the mind and moral conduct. The idea, though not entirely new, may yet, be in advance of the age, and it will undoubtedly meet with severe criticism. Yet it is obvious that narcotics do effect the mind and moral powers in various ways. Alcoholic liquors generally excite anger;




one partially intoxicated is strongly inclined to quarrel, his organ of combativeness is aroused, he is courageous and courts controversy, and a very large portion of all the murders are committed under its maddening influence. But the direct effect of tobacco is quieting, the Calumet is a token of peace and enduring friendship.

Strychnine excites one class of propensities, and Belladonna another. The votaries of opium and tobacco experience a sad depression of spirits when the happifying stimulus has passed off; and the morbid agent must be frequently repeated or the victim is unhappy. Deprived of his accustomed anodyne he "feels an aching void which nothing else can fill." In these dark hours the man is out of love with life — all his recollections of the past, and all his visions of the future are filled with gloomy spectres — existence seems a burthen. When these paroxisms of extreme depression are repeated often, and continued long, they strongly incline the individual to self destruction; accordingly we find that suicides are

most numerous where narcotics are most used. In the work of self destruction, tobacco comes in for a share.

According to reliable statistics the average annual number of suicides committed in France is about three thousand, being sometimes above, and sometimes below that number. Suicide, unless the victim is absolutely insane, is practical atheism; it is a solemn denial of all the truths of religion, and the awful result to which the loss of moral principle may lead. It is true that these are only extreme cases, yet they indicate the general tendency of such morbid influences.

The power of persistent tobacco inebriation to deprave the moral faculties is now attracting the attention of medical, and moral philosophers. In some European dioceses the bishops will not admit any to confirmation who are known to use tobacco; and some of the Methodist conferences in the United States have recently refused to license for the ministry any candidates who use tobacco. Leading members of the Society of



Friends have long regarded tobacco as having a demoralizing tendency, and earnestly opposed its use. So it appears that the evil is seen, and the reformation attempted where it should be, at the fountain heads.

CHAPTER XVI.

Drugging cigars for felonious purposes—They may become the medium of communicating a noisome disease.—Extracts from Drs. Johnson and Solly, etc.


SEVERAL years ago American travellers found that in some foreign countries, crafty knaves sometimes drugged cigars with some stupefying poison in order to rob or murder their victim, whilst he remained in a state of profound insensibility. Among the articles employed for that purpose, Opium, Indian Hemp, Hemlock, and Deadly-Nightshade were found; any of these might be rolled up with the tobacco-leaf, and the appearance of the cigar so made would not betray the villany; but whoever smoked one of them soon became giddy, and sunk in a short time into a profound coma, and became an easy

prey to his diabolical captor. The Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, whilst travelling abroad, says: "I suppose that it is Hemp, and not Opium, as generally supposed, with which cigars are drugged, and made the instruments in the hands of designing men in London and other great cities on the continent for the perpetration of many dreadful crimes."

As might have been expected, eastern pickpockets and felons were not long allowed the exclusive benefit of this infernal discovery, but quick as thought American desperadoes seized upon it and put it in practice. Armed with these deadly weapons, demons in human shape prowl about, watching for victims. If an unsuspecting individual takes one of these poisoned cigars, perhaps before it is half used up he is stupefied, robbed, and left to recover or die as the case may be, and the perpetrators of the villany pass on unmolested. There is much reason to believe that instances of this kind are not uncommon in some of our large cities. The stranger who is known

to have money about him perils his life if he takes a cigar at a gambling saloon or other place of doubtful reputation. This is a most dangerous, and horrid species of villany ; the assassin needs neither bludgeon, pistol, nor knife ; nothing but a few cigars of ordinary external appearance, but charged within with death. Thus disguised, the most guilty wretches may walk our streets with fearless impunity, perpetrate their villainies and go unpunished.

Another frightful consequence sometimes follows the use of cigars: in large tobacco manufactories persons of loose morals and filthy habits are very liable to be employed, and cigars made by such hands do sometimes contain the virus of a foul disease, and by this means that horrible affection is said to be sometimes communicated to innocent and unsuspecting lips. Upon this subject, Dr. Johnson writing for the London Lancet, Jan. 1859, says: "It is certain that devoted smokers are liable to both constitutional and local disorders of very serious characters. Among the



former we notice, giddiness, sickness, vomiting, dyspepsia, diarrhœa, angina pectoris, diseases of the liver, pancreas, and heart, nervousness, amaurosis, paralysis, apoplexy, atrophy, deafness, and mania. Amongst the latter, ulceration of the lips—not unfrequently of a syphilitic character from the morbid matter introduced into the healthy subject by *smoking infected cigars*, or by pipes which have been used by infected persons.”


That such things are liable to happen is a well established principle in medical jurisprudence, and it is presumed that many such anomalous cases have occurred, which have been mistaken for cancerous, or scrophulous affections, and attended with ulcerations of the lips, cheeks, throat and tonsils, followed by other characteristic developments.

On this subject, Dr. Solly of London, says: “I have been asked to produce *facts* in proof of the deleterious effects of tobacco, and facts in abundance shall be forthcoming when I have had a

record kept of its effects in my hospital cases ; but the facts which I have now by me being private cases, contain details the relation of which would involve a breach of confidence which nothing would "justify." Those who will not regard such hints as these must be either reckless or dull of apprehension.

The American savage gave the European tobacco, and in return the European gave the savage the most foul of all diseases, and never did hostile nations inflict more severe, or lasting injuries upon each-other : each carries with it a perpetual tendency to exterminate the race.

Since we commenced this manual we have been informed that snuff-taking still exists in some localities to a greater extent than we had supposed, and that besides the ordinary manner of using it, this filthy powder is sometimes taken into the mouth by females, and used as men do junk tobacco ; and that in some instances ladies of rank, thrust a large pinch of snuff into the mouth before going out in the afternoon, or evening, for



the purpose of creating a temporary excitement. We are told also, that some ladies rub their teeth and gums with snuff, either alone or mixed with some other powder, under the mistaken impression that it preserves the teeth from decay, and, that it is often used in that way until those who so employ it learn to love it, and continue its use for the sake of its exhilarating effect; it is said also that little girls, not more than eight, or ten years of age, have sometimes learnt to immitate their older sisters and purchase snuff to eat, as some boys do rum to drink. But we presume that these are only solitary instances, and that the great body of American ladies are free from the sin of tobacco; we are sure that the passion for snuff-taking is fast passing away, it is hoped, never to be revived again.

CHAPTER XVII.

Considerations connected with reform.

THE power of tobacco over its victim is a subject for serious consideration. The habit is generally commenced in a thoughtless manner, without any regard to future consequences. At first the article may be used only occasionally, and taken up and laid down at pleasure, with a perfect unconcern — the individual has no idea of contracting any fixed habit; but his desire for the article increases with its use, its power steals over him secretly, and when he thinks that he can break off, and makes the attempt, he finds to his surprise that it is next to an impossibility to do so — he has played with a viper until he is bitten, yet he is enchanted and cannot fly from it. At

first, a goddess seemed to lead him gently in the dance, and surround him with gaiety and pleasure, but the arm that first embraced him so fondly refuses at length to let him go. Whilst the heedless votary fed upon golden dreams unseen hands bound him with chains and he has become a captive, and his escape is attended with difficulty and uncertainty. If he attempts to rid himself of this bosom enemy he is depressed in spirits and unhappy — unexpected troubles suddenly spring up around him — the demon Nicotin haunts him, and his hand as if moved by some invisible power, is continually searching his pockets for tobacco; the man has lost his wonted self control, and after suffering in this way for a time he generally yields to the imperious demands of a morbid appetite. Universal experience proves that when the habit is once firmly established scarcely one in a thousand ever wholly abandon it; and it too often happens when tobacco is given up that some intoxicating drink is taken as a substitute.

History shows the power of this habit in the

utter futility of all civil and ecclesiastical prohibitions, and it must now be evident that the world can never be thoroughly reformed by lecturing old smokers and old drinkers; it is true some resolute high-minded men do sometimes break off by the force of their own wills, but the vast multitudes which now fill the world with filth and smoke will never be sensibly lessened by such — sporadic reformations so long as they continue to draw into their ranks the young and undefiled. It is believed that most of our American citizens who have arrived to the age of forty or fifty years and have become addicted to the use of tobacco seriously regret that they ever contracted the burthensome habit: they say, they wish they could do without it, but they think they cannot.

Dr. Johnson says of English smokers: "I have scarcely ever met with one habitual smoker who did not, in his candid moments, regret his commencement of the habit."

Now if such is the case should not all parents be careful to guard their own children from con-

tracting the habit? It is often begun, early in life, under the parental roof, and here the precautionary measures should commence. Let them begin in the nursery, and be cultivated by the domestic fireside. Let them form an indispensable part of home education, and be enforced both by precept and example. Let them be taught in common schools, and Sabbath schools; and the rising generation be made thoroughly acquainted with the poisonous nature of tobacco, and the manifold evils which arise from its use. Let men of intelligence and character in every rank of society raise their voices against it. Let an appeal be made to the common sense, the interests, patriotism, religious and moral sentiments of individuals and communities, and the appeal can not be made in vain. In the United States the province of moral reforms has generally been occupied by men, to the exclusion of the other sex, and this has undoubtedly been one reason why they have often made such meagre progress. The immense power that woman possesses over


the religious, moral, and social condition of mankind in all enlightened and refined communities has seldom been duly appreciated; and no where else in the wide world is that power greater than in the United States. Here her sanctifying influence is everywhere felt. Here woman is the great conservator, and protector, of all that is pure in morals, and holy in religion—her province is the heart, and her sceptre virtue. That power once fully brought out against tobacco would be irresistible—the united action of American females would soon banish this nuisance from the face of society. The subject is clearly within their province, and deeply concerns them. Whenever tobacco is used in a family it is a source of annoyance to the female inmates—smoking pollutes the whole air from cellar to garret, and from the nursery to the drawing room, and every one within doors is obliged to inhale more or less of the noxious effluvia. The subtle poison finds its way into every apartment, and carpets, curtains, furniture,

and clothing become impregnated with it—the murky clouds which the smoker belches out carry with them the effete and morbid matter from his own lungs, and more or less of this gaseous abomination is unavoidably taken in and breathed over again by those about him. If the man chews tobacco his housekeeper will have to perform the *delightful* task of cleansing spittoons, washing tobacco defilements from floors, carpets, furniture and clothing; and relieving his pockets and handkerchief of half used quids and mutilated cigars. Must not such tasks be extremely onerous to every delicate and sensitive female, and can any spirited woman submit to such odious indignities without complaining? If one thus situated should scold from morning till night, year in, and year out, we would not blame her.

Some quiet men, to avoid annoying others, and being annoyed themselves, often retire from company so that free from all interruptions they may enjoy the full fruition of smoking. There, solitary and alone, the whole man seems in

statu quo: thus situated he quaffs the ethereal ambrosia with all the delight of a self created deity — this is the fool's paradise. Let not the silver tones of prating children, nor the cheerful greetings of a wife, sister, or friend, disturb him — let no thought of a higher, or purer state intrude upon his blissful monotony; but let him take his fill at this lethean fountain, and immolate himself at the shrine of his chosen saint.

Our hopes of reformation lie through the diffusion of knowledge and the force of reason; in the cultivation of more refined sentiments, and more exalted aspirations, in the sober second thought of an enlightened and virtuous public; and in the irresistible force of female influence. The more the subject is examined the greater its importance will appear. Reflecting parents will be more careful to guard their children against the pernicious habit — every prudent mother will watch her son with more care and solicitude, and the thoughtful sister will stay the hand of her little brother when he extends it to grasp a cigar.





When the whole matter comes to be every where clearly understood every consideration of interest, honor, and happiness will be found to stand in array against tobacco, and the poisonous weed will come to be regarded as only fit for sluggards and felons.

Some of the divisions of the Sons of Temperance have recently discarded the use of tobacco. This course is highly commendable and adds to the credit and importance of these growing institutions. Go on, then, we say, in your praiseworthy mission, and teach the world by example as well as precept. Go on, to encourage the timid, and reclaim the wayward. Go on, to sustain the weak and raise up the fallen. Go on, and bring back the prodigal sons, reunite the broken links of the family circle, and restore the loved and lost to their friends and society. This is the spirit of genuine philanthropy — do these things and all mankind will bless you.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Miscellaneous Observations and Reflections.

THE advocates of tobacco like those who follow any other pernicious habit are continually offering excuses for it. Some tell us "that the principle harm arising from the use of tobacco is because it does not agree with some constitutions." Acrid poisons are not apt to agree very well or very long with any constitutions. It is true that alcohol, opium, and other deleterious substances manifest their pernicious effects much sooner in some individuals than in others, but this circumstance is no security to those who show no signs of immediate injury; the weak and the sensitive may fall first, but this should alarm rather than quiet the fears of others—the soldier who is not





cut down by the first fire will not on that account be out of danger so long as the firing continues; and we know of no constitutions that are proof against deadly agents whether in the shape of tobacco, alcohol, arsenic or leaden balls.

Again, some physicians tell us that they have seldom or never noticed any very serious evils arising from the use of this article; then we say their optics are very obtuse, and they are dull of apprehension, or their field of observation has been very limited.

Lizars, of the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, one of the most strenuous opposers of tobacco, says: "The number of patients frequenting my surgery in the mornings is upwards of 2000 annually, and these afford me an extensive field of surgical observation in every department. It would appear that the cigar, or pipe, first produces a small blister of the mucous membrane of the mouth, which, being daily irritated by the pungent weed, progressively ulcerates and becomes cancerous."

It would require a large amount of negative evidence to contradict one such witness as this. What if there are scores of men who know nothing of the evils which hosts of others have witnessed? such negative testimony amounts to nothing when so much positive evidence of the most reliable kind is found everywhere and meets us at every turn.

Again one assures us that he has often seen, "a sleek negro with his mouth always full of tobacco, his jaws grinding as steadily as a mill, and the purple juice all the while overflowing his lips, yet such creatures were healthy and strong as oxen"—and we presume that after using this kind of fodder for many years in succession they were about as intelligent as oxen. Huge masses of indolent, adipose matter may not be so readily or severely affected by a poisonous irritant, and its sedative influence may be more congenial to such phlegmatic temperaments; but if any envy the poor African such swinish pleasure—if they have no higher aspirations than this, then let them



go, bask in the sunshine, and take plug and plug, whiff and whiff with him; but every prudent man will surely decline the loathsome banquet.

Hitherto all the efforts of philosophers and moralists to check the use of tobacco appear to have been wholly disregarded, and the hundred volumes which have been published against it have fallen like so many autumnal leaves to perish and be forgotten — facts and arguments have been looked upon as chaff to be blown away by the wind, and a morbid desire for tobacco-inebriation seems to have overcome all opposition until the few who do not use the pernicious weed are only so many solitary exceptions to an almost universal custom; and yet in no instance has a single charge brought against tobacco been refuted, but on the contrary the experience of every year and almost every day tends not only to confirm them all, but also to bring to light new, and more astounding developments.


The history of tobacco shows its blighting influence upon nations as well as individuals.

Everywhere as the use of this article has increased, the average duration of human life has diminished and natural population has declined. Under its depressing influence the scale of intellect has fallen, and all the proud traits of honor, benevolence, and self-sacrificing heroism have been lost. The causes which contribute to the decline of nations may not be so obvious or so distinctly seen as those that affect individuals, because several deleterious elements may be in operation at the same time, and because the change being upon a large scale may appear so slow as not to be readily computed. We do not witness the downfall of a nation from moral causes in a day, nor perhaps in the lifetime of a single individual, but when the decline is measured by decades or centuries the change is more distinctly seen and understood. Spain was the first of all the civilized world to adopt the use of tobacco, and when her present condition is compared with what it was before that event it will be seen that she has greatly declined. What has

Spain done during the last half century but smoke tobacco? Who can show us her illustrious sages and heroes of the present day? Where in all her dominions can be found such men as built the pillars of Hercules? Where now is her world renowned Alhambra? Where are her libraries of six hundred thousand volumes? Spain once had the proudest palaces and the strongest castles, the bravest warriors and the boldest navigators; and when every other nation refused to aid Columbus in his search for this western continent she nobly espoused his cause, and furnished him with the means for pursuing his daring enterprise. Spain was once the home of chivalry, and the emporium of the arts and sciences; she gave the world the first metallic currency that had credit among all nations. Spanish faith was incorruptable, the Spaniard was ever true to his trust, and never forfeited his word. But now how changed! Her proudest towers and castles have fallen, and her cities and palaces are hastening to decay; the mildew of tobacco is upon her—her “boasted

heraldry and pomp of power," with her once immaculate integrity have passed away — her people have lost their physical and intellectual vigor, and are fast sinking into a state of ignorance, effeminacy and barbarism.

In Spain tobacco is a government monopoly and is one of its chief sources of revenue. The Spaniard seldom chews tobacco but is always smoking or snuffing. Seville has the unenviable honor of having the largest tobacco manufactory in the whole world. According to Harper this stupendous edifice is six hundred and sixty two feet in length and five hundred and twenty four feet wide, covering an area of nearly eight acres ; the whole surrounded by an immense moat. Within, the structure is divided into numerous apartments, in which from five to eight thousand persons, chiefly females, are constantly employed manufacturing cigars and snuff. When an American gets a peep at the group of wretches that fill this plague spot of the world he is startled at the multitude of ghastly, cadaverous images by which




he finds himself surrounded — it seems a charnel house, and its dingy inmates appear to know little more of the living world than the tenants of Egyptian catacombs. These females are called, in Seville, *cigarreras*. The girl of sixteen has the form of a skeleton and the face of a spectre ; to such forlorn beings virtue and chastity are unmeaning words. In this model erebus thousands spend their whole lives from youth to age ; happily for those who are doomed to this abomination their lives are generally short. This is Spain as she is now, and such is the vortex to which the cursed Hebano leads nations as well as individuals.

In a work recently published by Monsieur Fievec, he says: " We are much deceived if the statistics of actual mental vigor would not prove the low level of the intellect throughtout Europe since the introduction of tobacco. The Spaniards have first experienced the penalty of its abuse, the example of which they have so industriously propagated, and the elements of which originated

in their conquests and their ancient energy. The rich Havana enjoys the monopoly of the poison which procures so much gold in return for so many victims; but the Spaniards have paid for it also by the loss of their political importance, of their rich appendage of art and literature, of their chivalry, which made them one of the first people of the world. Admitting that other causes operated, tobacco has been one of the most influential. Spain is now one vast tobacco shop, and its only consolation is, that other nations are fast approaching its level."

The consumption of tobacco in Great Britain has long been increasing and at the present time it is said to amount to thirty millions of pounds annually, which is more than a pound to every man, woman and child in the kingdom of Great Britain. The government employs ships for the special purpose of bringing tobacco to London, and a dock of one acre in extent is set apart for the special use of these ships. The "Queens Great Tobacco Warehouse" covers an area of





five acres and is rented by the government for fourteen thousand pounds a year.

It appears from statistical returns made to the agricultural bureau of the United States that for some years past the annual production of tobacco has been about 200,000,000 pounds, or about 100,000 tons; how much of this is exported and how much is consumed in our own country, we are unable to say, but it is evident that the home consumption of this vile weed is constantly increasing. Many American farmers devote some of their richest fields to the cultivation of this article because they say, that the cost of cultivation, and the average yield, can be calculated with more certainty than almost any other crop; and tobacco always commands ready cash.

CHAPTER XIX.

Concluding remarks.




It is a little more than three hundred years since the Red-man of America gave the European tobacco, from that small beginning it has spread over nearly all the world, until now it is said that no less than six millions of acres of the richest soil upon the face of the earth are annually devoted to the cultivation of this plant, and it is calculated that about four fifths of the entire population of the globe use it in some form or other. From this circumstance some have been led to conclude that an article so extensively employed cannot be generally injurious; but it is a point well settled by medical men everywhere, that the duration of human life and the common



standard of health have greatly diminished within the past two hundred years. Before the human race had become contaminated by the use of rum, and tobacco, the great mass of mankind possessed sound constitutions; health was the rule and illness the exception; but now, it is seldom that an adult is found anywhere wholly free from disease. Other causes have doubtless contributed to produce this state of things, but we are bound to regard the free use of tobacco and spirituous liquors as the chief agents in this universal deterioration.

Some may say that the strong desire which those who use tobacco have for it is proof that it is adapted to supply a want in the economy of human life; but this argument is of little account when it is recollected that the love of tobacco is wholly artificial, and that there is always a strong aversion to it before its use has created a morbid desire for it. But if such an argument should be allowed, it would prove all that the most sensual could desire. If the use of tobacco is indicated

by the desire for it that its use creates, then, by the same rule the use of opium, alcohol, and most other narcotics is indicated in the same way. The more any individual uses of any these noxious agents—the more he is injured by it, the stronger his appetite for it becomes; hence it is seen that all such arguments are altogether futile and absurd. Some will tell us that the evils resulting from tobacco are chargeable to its excess, and not to its ordinary use; but a brief consideration will show the fallacy of this argument. It is certain that tobacco never supplies any of the natural wants of the body; it never enters into the composition of bone, muscle, or any fibrous or glandular tissue. When taken in any quantity it tends to derange and exhaust the system, although the injury may be so slight at first as to be unnoticed. In like manner a few pennies may be daily filched from the coffers of a wealthy individual without his perceiving the loss, yet he will by that means every day be made poorer. Tobacco is quite as hostile to human life as ar-



senic, and in a large dose it may be as suddenly fatal. What would be thought of a parent who should give his boy arsenic, or deadly night-shade, to use temperately? The tyro may go on to abstract only a few sands daily from the hour-glass of life, or he may dash the whole in an instant.


The following account is from the Providence Evening Press Jan. 8th, 1861, and shows the intimate relation between tobacco and intoxicating drinks, and its power as a deadly poison.

“KILLED BY LIQUOR MIXED WITH TOBACCO.— At Central Bridge, Schoharie county, for the fun of the thing, the associates of Norman Cole, concluded to wind up the day's drinking by mixing tobacco in his liquor. He drank freely of it, and died in the bar-room almost instantly.”

The tendency of tobacco to attach itself to its victim is sufficient to overthrow all arguments in its favor. In a short time the habit becomes so fixed that it is almost impossible to break away from it. The first cigar is big with danger. The lad who begins with one or two cigars a day soon requires

a dozen—the beginning is connected with the end, the temperate with the intemperate use of tobacco. But if it were true as some would have us to believe, that tobacco was intended as a special benefit to man, we should be led to wonder why Providence has been thus partial to our sex, when the more numerous trials and infirmities of the other, would seem to make such artificial aid far more necessary. Until this question is answered the conscientious husband should smoke no more than his wife, and the brother no more than the sister; this rule would soon banish the filthy abomination from all respectable society.


That the free use of tobacco either by smoking, snuffing or chewing tends to produce premature decrepitude is proved by the concurrent testimony of medical writers from Cullen down to the present time, and is reaffirmed by almost every day's experience and observation. The Caucasian race almost everywhere manifests symptoms of decline. The causes of this are to be looked for



in the social and domestic habits of the people, and although other causes have undoubtedly contributed to this deterioration, yet, we can discover no single agent so universal in its application, and so depressing in its nature as tobacco. Ask any of our old men what they think of the young men of the present time, and they will tell you that they are inferior in size to their fathers and grandfathers; they see none of those tall majestic forms, brawny limbs and ruddy countenances, that were common fifty years ago. Most of the young men of the present time, and especially those who have been born and brought up in compact cities where the whole breathing atmosphere is saturated with the malaria of tobacco are inferior in size to their ancestors, the bold figure, graceful symmetry, and hale countenance of the Anglo-Saxon have given place to the slender form and sharp features; the flush of health is gone from the cheek because tobacco has supplanted the rose; the suction of smoking has drawn in the cheeks and given the face a col-

lapsed appearance. Personal defects, congenital deformities, and hereditary affections, appear to be constantly increasing. Although these symptoms of decline may not be so obvious in rural districts, yet, as the taint is supposed to descend through succeeding generations, no particular location can long claim exemption from it; and at length the sex which is least guilty may come to suffer equally with the other. If so great a decline has taken place in the course of two or three generations, who can predict the result? Should the production and consumption of this article continue to increase for the next hundred years in the same ratio that they have for the last fifty it is impossible to imagine the consequences; this however is not probable, but as epidemics often disappear for want of subjects to feed upon so tobacco may finally eat itself out.

In attempting moral or social reforms the power of example has been too often overlooked. It is a truth although it may do no good to say it, that the higher classes are to some extent re-



sponsible for many of the errors and faults which are common among the middle and lower classes. The late example of the English Queen in sitting for her portrait in plain costume, without her jewels, deserves the highest commendation. This eminent lesson of prudence, and economy, will doubtless have its effect in discouraging extravagance in dress, and the use of superfluous ornaments. In the United States examples set by the wealthy, and influential, are sure to be followed by most others so far as their conditions, and circumstances will allow. When all who move in the higher circles are seen with cigars in their mouths, every hotel servant, and every baker's boy, is quick to follow the example. It seems, as if by magic, to elevate the humblest citizen to the same category of the most opulent nabob. If the obscure cottager cannot wear as fine cloth, and support as much style as the more wealthy, he can at least use as big cigars, and puff as ample clouds of smoke; and it will be almost impossible to make him believe that there


is any great harm in following such illustrious examples ; and so long as smoking is looked upon as a refined luxury and is common among the higher classes — so long as the reeking cigar is supported by fingers bedecked with gold and sparkling with diamonds — so long as beauty and fashion admire, or pretend to admire it, it will be of little use to lecture the masses upon the pernicious effects of tobacco. But once let it become unfashionable and discarded from the higher circles, and the filthy habit would everywhere decline ; its murky clouds would soon disappear from public streets and public saloons, tobacco would become a term of reproach, associated with the low and the vulgar, every thoughtful boy would despise it, and the polluting nuisance would be compelled to take refuge in the secluded recesses of filth and shame ; fields which now produce nothing but this noisome weed would once more smile with golden grain, a sad reverse would come over the tobacco trade, and hundreds now engaged in this nefarious business /

would be compelled to seek some more respectable and more useful employment. These things deserve to be well considered by all whose example and influence contribute to form the character of individuals and communities.

Forty or fifty years ago the use of alcoholic drink was almost as common and quite as popular as the use of tobacco is at the present time. Spirituous liquors of some kind were thought almost indispensable in every family; they were supposed to be necessary in almost every case of illness or emergency, they were furnished to laborers almost as stately as provisions, and were universally proffered to visitors as a token of friendship. The Doctor drank as he went his daily rounds in attendance on the sick, the clergyman partook of the same hospitality when he made his parish visits, and the good matron felt extremely mortified whenever she found herself unable to offer her guest some favorite beverage. The attorney drank, and his client drank, the sheriff drank, and the judge drank; it was held to

be indispensable both at weddings and funerals; it was administered to the infant in the cradle and the dying centenarian; no public occasion could be celebrated without it, and it was thought to be no disparagement even for a high official to get beastly drunk on some extraordinary occasion. But a change has come over public opinion, and the use of intoxicating liquor is no longer considered respectable; it has disappeared from the sideboard, and is no longer seen in the parlor or drawingroom of those who make any pretensions to respectability. Its manifold evils have been pointed out, public opinion has pronounced its mandate, and the finger of scorn is steadily pointed against it.

Here is a change that no one anticipated half a century ago, and we have great reason to hope that in a much shorter period this same unappeasable finger of scorn, will, in this country at least, direct its withering force against tobacco.











17/11/53

